Canada

Rural Newfoundland and Labrador Profile:

A Ten-year Census Analysis (1991 - 2001)

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Table of Contents

List of Tables and Figures 1
Foreword 6
Executive Summary 7
Introduction 11
Research Methods 13

Findings

A. Population Indicators 19
Key Findings 19
A.1 Population Distribution and Change 21
A.2 Newfoundland and Labrador – Canada Population Comparison 23
A.3 Population Age Structure and Global Dependency Ratio 27
A.4 Population Gender Structure 31
A.5 Aboriginal Identity Population 33
A.6 Home Language 35
Summary 37

B. Economic Indicators 38
Key Findings 38
B.1 Labour Market Indicators 40
B.1.1 Labour Force Participation and Unemployment Rates
B.1.2 Industry Employment Distribution
B.1.3 Self-employment
B.2 Income 49
B.2.1 Median Personal Income
B.2.2 Incidence of Low Income
B.2.3 Share of Total Income from Social Transfer Income
Summary 54

C. Education Indicators 56
Key Findings 56
C.1 Educational Attainment 57
C.2 Education Providers 60
Summary 62

D. Social Indicators 64
Key Findings 64
D.1 Family Structure (Lone-parent Families) 65
D.2 Housing 66
D.2.1 Recent Housing Construction
D.2.2 Average Dwelling (Housing) Values
D.2.3 Dwelling (Housing) Affordability
Summary 71

Table of Contents (Cont'd)

E. Health Care Indicators **73**
Key Findings 73
E.1 Health Care Providers 74
Summary 77

F. Conclusions **79**

References 80

Appendix: Supplementary Tables 82

List of Tables

Table 1: The Rural Population has a Slightly Less "Youthful" Age Structure Compared to the Urban Population 28

Table 2: Compared to the Urban Population, the Rural and Small Town Population is Aging at a Greater Rate 29

Table 3: English is by Far the Language Most Often Spoken at Home Throughout Rural And Urban Newfoundland and Labrador 36

Table 4: Rural Residents are Much More Likely than Urbanites to be Working in Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting and in Manufacturing Industries 44

Table 5: In Rural Newfoundland and Labrador, Service Industry Employment Increased Between 1991 and 1996, While Employment in Manufacturing Declined 45

Table 6: Levels of Educational Attainment are Lowest in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* Zones of the Province 58

Table 7: Educational Attainment Increased in All Geographic Zones Between 1991 and 1996 59

Table 8: The Number Employed in Every Health Occupational Category per capita is Greater in Urban than in Rural Zones 76

List of Figures

Figure 1: Geographic Zone Model 14

Figure 2: Rural and Small Town Zones Comprised a Smaller Share of the Provincial Population in 2001 than in 1996 21

Figure 3: Each of the Four Rural Zones Lost 10% or More of Their Population Between 1996 and 2001 23

Figure 4: Proportionally Speaking, Newfoundland and Labrador's Rural Population is Two and One Half Times Larger than the Canadian Rural Population 24

Figure 5: Compared to Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador's Rural Population Declined at a Much Greater Rate 26

Figure 6: The Global Dependency Ratio Decreased in Every Geographic Zone Between 1991 and 2001 31

Figure 7: The Male-to-Female Ratio is Higher in Rural than in Urban Newfoundland and Labrador 32

Figure 8: The Share of the Population that is Aboriginal is Higher in Rural than in Urban Areas of Newfoundland and Labrador 34

Figure 9: The Share of the Population that is Aboriginal Increased to a Greater Extent In Rural than in Urban Zones 35

Figure 10: Labour Force Participation Rates are Substantially Lower in Rural than in Urban Newfoundland and Labrador 41

Figure 11: *No MIZ* Zones Have the Highest Unemployment Rates in Newfoundland and Labrador 42

Figure 12: Self-Employment is More Prevalent in Rural Newfoundland and Labrador 48

Figure 13: Median Incomes Declined Between 1991 and 2001 in all Geographic Zones of the Province 50

Figure 14: *Moderate MIZ* Zones Consistently Had the Highest Incidence of Low Income in the Province 52

Figure 15: *Moderate MIZ* Zones were Consistently the Most Likely to Rely On Social Transfer Income 54

Figure 16: The Number of Education Providers per Capita is Higher in Urban than in Rural Zones of the Province 61

Figure 17: Lone-Parent Families are Least Prevalent in *No MIZ* Zones of Newfoundland and Labrador 66

Figure 18: Urbanites are More Likely than Rural Residents to Reside in Newly-Constructed Housing 68

Figure 19: Dwelling (Housing) Values are Highest in Urban Centres and Lowest in *No MIZ* Zones 69

Figure 20: A Greater Proportion of Urban than Rural Residents Spent Greater than 30% of their Income on Shelter in 2001 71

Figure 21: Moderate and No MIZ Zones have the Fewest Per Capita Health Care Providers in the Province 75

List of Appendix Tables

Appendix Table 1: Population and Population Percentage Change in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 1996 to 2001 and 1991 to 1996 83

Appendix Table 2: Population Percent Distribution in Canada by Province / Territory and Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 84

Appendix Table 3: Population Percentage Change in Canada by Province / Territory and Geographic Zone; 1996 to 2001 and 1991 to 1996 87

Appendix Table 4: Population Age Distribution in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 90

Appendix Table 5: Population Age in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 91

Appendix Table 6: Aboriginal Identity Population in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001 and 1996 92

Appendix Table 7: Home Language Population in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 93

Appendix Table 8: Population Participating in Labour Force in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 94

Appendix Table 9: Population Unemployed in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 95

Appendix Table 10: 2001 Labour Force Population by Industry Sector (NAICS) in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone 96

Appendix Table 11: 1996 and 1991 Labour Force Population by Industry Sector (SIC) in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone 97

Appendix Table 12: Self-Employed Population in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 98

Appendix Table 13: Low-Income Population in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 99

Appendix Table 14: 2001 Population Educational Attainment in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone 100

Appendix Table 15: 1996 and 1991 Population Educational Attainment in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone 101

Appendix Table 16: Number of Education Providers in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 102

Appendix Table 17: Number of Lone-Parent Families in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 103

Appendix Table 18: Number of Houses Constructed Between 1996 and 2001, 1991 and 1995 and 1986 and 1990 in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone 104

Appendix Table 19: Number of Owner Households Spending Greater than 30% percent of their Income on Shelter in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 105

Appendix Table 20: Number Employed in Health Occupations in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991 106

Appendix Table 21: Number Employed in Health Occupational Categories in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001 and 1996 107

Foreword

Rural Newfoundland and Labrador Profile is one of a series of 14 profiles – one for each territory and province plus one national document. These profiles represent one response by the Government of Canada's Rural Secretariat to address a need for better information concerning rural areas. Distance from urban centres and population density are correlated to a number of factors that affect the wellbeing of Canadians. It is hoped that this document will draw attention to areas that require in-depth research. Most importantly, for government policy and programs to meet the particular needs of rural Canadians living in zones of varying degrees of metropolitan influence, government needs to understand the differences between these zones.

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The Rural Secretariat values readers' feedback. Any suggestions or comments may be directed to:

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Government of Canada's Rural Secretariat initiated this report to advance its goal of improving government and citizen understanding of rural conditions in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. This report benchmarks major socio-economic structures and trends regarding rural areas. The overall objective is to help improve policy with respect to the economic and social conditions found in rural Newfoundland and Labrador.

Research Methods

Two major classification systems form the core analysis in this report. First, the Metropolitan Influenced Zones (MIZ) system, developed by McNiven et al. (2000), is utilized to make distinctions within rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador. The four MIZ categories are *Strong*, *Moderate*, *Weak*, and *No MIZ*, with each reflecting progressively greater rurality. Second, a basic comparison between urban centres and rural/small town zones is also presented to capture overall differences between the two sectors of the province. In total, 20 indicators from Statistics Canada's 2001, 1996 and 1991 Censuses of Population have been calculated and analyzed for each of four degrees of rurality, for rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador as a whole, and for its urban centres.

MAJOR FINDINGS

Population Indicators

In 2001, rural and small town residents comprised 53.5% of the total Newfoundland and Labrador population, down from 55.4% in 1991. Between 1991 and 1996, virtually all of the province's population contraction (of 2.9%) was due to losses in rural and small town zones (of 5.1%). Though urban population decline contributed to the provincial loss between 1996 and 2001, rural population losses greatly exceeded that of urban centres during the latter half of the decade. The 1996 to 2001 population contraction was essentially uniform across rural and small town zones, with each MIZ zone undergoing losses of 10.0% or 11.0 %.

Proportionally speaking, Newfoundland and Labrador had a significantly larger rural population than Canada in 2001 (53.5% compared to 20.6%), with most of the difference attributable to the much larger proportional populations of *Moderate* and *Weak MIZ* zones in Newfoundland and Labrador than in Canada (of a combined 45.3% compared to 14.2%). Population losses between 1996 and 2001 in rural Newfoundland and Labrador were much greater than that of rural Canada (10.6 compared to 0.4%).

Compared to the urban population, Newfoundland and Labrador's rural population is slightly less youthful, with smaller proportions of children, youth and young adults and larger proportions of adults and seniors. The average age of the provincial population increased between 1991 and 2001, with rural zones slightly more likely than urban areas to have declining proportions of children, youth, and young adults and increasing proportions of adults and seniors.

Rural and small town zones were home to a greater proportion of Aboriginal individuals than were the province's urban centres (comprising 5.6% of the rural versus 1.5% of the urban population in 2001). *Weak MIZ* zones had the largest absolute number of Aboriginal individuals in 2001, while *No MIZ* zones had the largest proportional share of individuals self-identifying as Aboriginal in this census year.

Economic, Education, Social and Health Care Indicators

Residents of rural Newfoundland and Labrador were by far the most disadvantaged with respect to economic conditions, levels of educational attainment and access to health care. Within rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador, *Strong* and *Weak MIZ* zones often emerged as the most advantaged of the rural zones, while *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones often displayed the least favorable characteristics in the province.

The use of three consecutive census years permits a review of changes over the decade of the 1990s in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Most apparent in this over-time analysis is the continuation of the relative disadvantage of rural zones, when compared to urban Newfoundland and Labrador. Within rural zones of the province, however, a more mixed pattern of over-time change is observed, at least with respect to economic conditions. While *No MIZ* zones were once among the most advantaged of rural zones, by 2001 the economic conditions had deteriorated such that they ranked among the least advantaged. *Strong MIZ* zones, in contrast, exhibited much greater over time improvement and, as a result, replaced *No MIZ* as the most prosperous of zones as of 2001. At the same time, most zones exhibited a degree of improvement in the latter half of the 1990s, though seldom were conditions in 2001 substantially better than they were in 1991.

Examples of these patterns include the following:

Economic Indicators

- Labour force participation rates were much higher in urban than in rural zones of the province (62.9% compared to 53.1% in 2001, respectively). Though rates increased throughout the province between 1996 and 2001, they remained lower in 2001 than in 1991.

- Rural unemployment rates exceeded urban unemployment rates in each census year. *No MIZ* zones not only had the highest unemployment rate in the province (41.3% in 2001), they were the only zones in the province to exhibit an increase in unemployment rates between 1991 and 2001.
- Rural and small town populations dominated employment in primary industries, while urbanites were much more likely to be working in the service industries in each census year.
- Urban median incomes exceeded rural median incomes in each census year, though *Moderate* and *No MIZ* were the only zones in the province with a higher median income in 2001 than in 1996.
- A greater proportion of rural than urban residents were considered low-income in 2001 (20.5% compared to 17.2%), though *Strong MIZ* zones had roughly the same proportion of low-income individuals as did urban centres (17.1%).
- A greater proportion of rural than urban incomes were derived from social transfer income in 2001 (29.6% compared to 14.2%), and within rural Newfoundland and Labrador, *Moderate* and *No MIZ* residents were the most likely to derive their income from this source (32.6% and 32.0%, respectively).

Education Indicators

- The lowest level of educational attainment is observed in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones where, respectively, 52.8% and 53.3% of the population of at least 20 years of age had not completed high school as recently as 2001.
- All rural zones had fewer education providers per 1,000 residents than did urban centres regardless of census year. *Moderate MIZ* zones had the fewest education providers in the province in 2001 (14.7 per 1,000 residents).

Social Indicators

- Housing values in *Strong MIZ* zones were 38% higher than housing values in *No MIZ* zones. However, *No MIZ* zones were only slightly less likely than *Strong MIZ* zones to have households that spent 30% or more on shelter costs in 2001 (11.1% compared to 13.4%).

Health Care Indicators

- In 1996, the urban/rural gap in the number of health care providers was 18.5 providers per 1,000 residents. By 2001, this gap had increased to 21.2 providers per 1,000 residents.
- *No MIZ* zones resided the lowest number of health care providers in the province (11.9 per 1,000 in 2001), with just 0.8 professional health care providers (e.g., physicians) per 1,000 residents.

A notable exception to these patterns was found for the prevalence of lone-parent families. Lone-parent families were more common in urban than in rural zones of the

province (16.8% compared to 13.4% in 2001) and the least likely to be found in *No MIZ* zones (10.4%).

Residents of rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador are clearly not equivalent to their urban counterparts with respect to economic prosperity, educational attainment, housing, and access to health care. The differences that exist within rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador are, however, equally apparent. Though the disadvantaged position of *No MIZ* zones suggests that lack of urban integration is a factor here, it is unclear why the more integrated *Moderate MIZ* zones often displayed the most disadvantaged conditions in the province. Nonetheless, decision makers should recognize the range of conditions across the four MIZ zones of the province when drafting policy and implementing programs.

Introduction

The Government of Canada's Rural Secretariat initiated this report to advance its goal of improving government and citizen understanding of rural conditions in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. This report benchmarks the major socio-economic structures and trends in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. The overall objective is to help improve policy with respect to the economic and social conditions found in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Similar documents have been prepared profiling the rural conditions in each of Canada's nine other provinces and three territories plus one profile for the whole country.

Residents of rural Newfoundland and Labrador comprise 53.5% of the provincial population. But, this population exhibits considerable variation; ranging from the most remote, sparsely populated, and typically most disadvantaged zones to the more affluent metro-adjacent zones that have established economic and social connections with urban sites. To capture the conditions of rural Newfoundland and Labrador appropriately, therefore, it is important to recognize the diversity and varying degrees of 'rurality' within different rural sectors of the province. Accordingly, a major goal of this report is to examine how geographic zones within rural Newfoundland and Labrador exhibit variable demographic, economic, education, social, and health care characteristics.

The analysis presented here divides rural Newfoundland and Labrador into four categories, each representing a specific degree of 'rurality.' These four categories are based on the Census **M**etropolitan Area and Census Agglomeration **I**nfluenced **Z**ones (MIZ) classification system (McNiven et al., 2000). In addition, the comparison of the CMA/CA population (as defined in the "Research Methods" section below) and the non-CMA/CA population (also called the "rural and small town population") is used to draw distinctions between rural and urban regions of the province.

The Rural and Small Town and MIZ definitions have proven useful for developing the profiles because they have allowed us to describe rurality using broad-brush strokes, highlighting differences between types of rural based on labour market integration as a proxy for rurality. However, it is important to recognize that there are limitations to the MIZ concept. While allowing an analysis and comparison between different types of rural, MIZ glosses over some important differences within each zone. For example in No MIZ, where Aboriginal people comprise a significant proportion of the population, we cannot describe rural non-Aboriginal separately from rural Aboriginal. MIZ also tends to obscure important place-related aspects. The provincial north disappears as a distinct region. Thus, we are describing averages and averages conceal the intra-zone variation.

Accuracy and comprehensiveness were important considerations in selecting the indicators used to examine the characteristics of rural Newfoundland and Labrador. To understand the social and economic conditions of the province's rural population, the indicators must be accurate measures of population, economic, education, social, and health care characteristics. Accuracy of the indicators was substantiated by previous research (see, for example, McNiven et al., 2000). Every attempt was also made to select indicators that represent the breadth of the Newfoundland and Labrador experience. Still, they are perhaps not as comprehensive as they could be and adding to them will enrich similar profiles in the future.

Statistics Canada Census data were used for the years 1991, 1996, and 2001 to establish evidence of trends within rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador. It is important to understand, however, that since these data were compiled from census subdivisions, which may themselves contain a high level of variability, it is inappropriate to apply any of the findings to specific communities.

The report presents a number of findings that, together, paint a picture of diversity, both between urban and rural Newfoundland and Labrador as well as within rural and small town areas of the province. In addition to interpreting the findings individually, attempts are made to make sense of the data on an interrelated basis. In many of these instances, causes for differences in findings are extrapolated from the aggregation of data. These conjectures are, however, tentative since a more definitive causal analysis is beyond the scope of this report.

The following section of the report describes the research methods used in this analysis while subsequent sections (Sections A through E) present the population, economic, education, social, and health care profiles of rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Section F summarizes the findings and the Appendix contains a series of tables containing the raw numbers to complement the percentages and ratios depicted in the tables and figures within the main body of the text.

Research Methods

Defining "Rural"

Two classification systems are used in this report; one to delineate between the rural and urban population and the other to distinguish differences among the rural population of the province.

The Rural and Small Town (RST) definition is used to demarcate between urban and rural population.[1] Residents of rural Newfoundland and Labrador are defined as individuals residing in RST areas that have a population of less than 10,000 and where less than 50% of employed individuals commute to a Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) or Census Agglomeration (CA) (Statistics Canada, 1999a). Residents of urban Newfoundland and Labrador are those residing in a CMA or CA. CMAs have an urban core population of at least 100,000 and include all neighbouring municipalities where 50% or more of the labour force commutes into the urban core. CAs have an urban core population between 10,000 and 99,999 and abide by the same commuting rules as CMAs (Statistics Canada, 1999a).

To capture varying degrees of rurality among the rural or non-metropolitan population of the province, we use a system developed by McNiven et al. (2000) whereby rural communities are classified into four groups using the Census **M**etropolitan Area and Census Agglomeration **I**nfluenced **Z**ones (MIZ). The MIZ classification system (or typology) permits distinctions among rural communities that are masked by the commonly-used CMA/CA and non-CMA/CA dichotomy. MIZ is designed to measure the degree to which all CMAs/CAs influence the rural community, as measured by commuting flows. Rural communities are classified into four MIZ categories based on the proportion of the population commuting to CMAs and CAs as follows:

MIZ Zones for Rural and Small Town (RST):

1. ***Strong MIZ***: Between 30% and 49% of the employed workforce commutes to the urban core of any larger urban centre, suggesting that this population is strongly integrated with the urban economy[2].

2. ***Moderate MIZ***: At least 5% but less than 30% of the employed workforce commutes to the urban core of any larger urban centre, suggesting that this population is moderately integrated with the urban economy.

3. ***Weak MIZ***: More than 0% but less than 5% of the employed workforce commutes to the urban core of any larger urban centre,

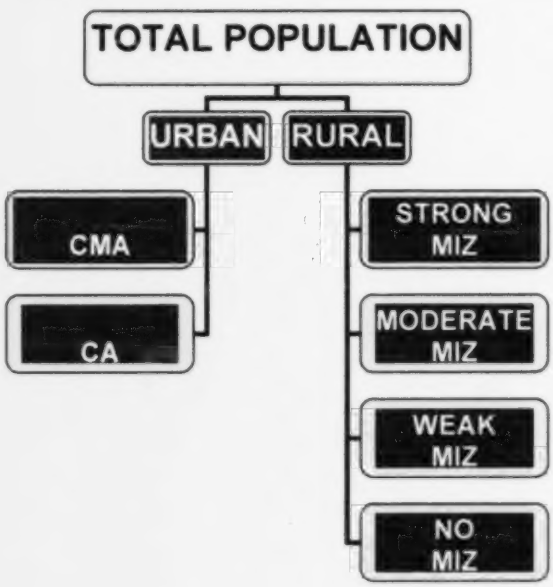
[1] RST is also known as Statistical Area Classification (SAC).
[2] The upper commuting limit of 49% holds for the vast majority of CSD designations. In instances where more than 49% of the employed workforce commutes to more than one CMA or CA, however, the census subdivision (CSD) is designated as *Strong MIZ*.

suggesting that this population is weakly integrated with the urban economy.

4. ***No MIZ:*** 0% of the employed workforce commutes to the urban core of any larger urban centre (plus any census subdivision that has less than 40 people in its employed labour force), suggesting that this population is not at all integrated with the urban economy.

The geographic zones presented for each indicator are depicted in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Geographic Zone Model



The MIZ typology is a good proxy for rurality because of its use of commuter flows. These flows are more than just a measure of home to work journeys and access to labour markets since people tend to use services provided in the same regions where they work. Hence, the MIZ classification system is a measure of rural residents' interrelation with urban centres and reflects both the economic and social connection from rural to urban regions.

Indicators

Using 2001, 1996, and 1991 Census data, several measures of rural life were examined both between rural and urban Newfoundland and Labrador as well as among the rural population of the province. The 20 indicators used to measure the population, economic, education, social, and health care conditions of the province's population by geographic zone are:

Population Indicators:

- Population size
- Age distribution
- Global dependency ratio
- Gender distribution
- Aboriginal identity population
- Home language

Economic Indicators:

- Labour force participation rates
- Unemployment rates
- Industry employment distribution
- Incidence of self-employment
- Median personal income
- Incidence of low income
- Social transfer income as a proportion of total income

Education Indicators:

- Educational attainment
- Number of education providers per 1,000 residents

Social Indicators:

- Incidence of lone-parent families
- Recent housing construction
- Average dwelling (housing) values
- Dwelling (housing) affordability

Health Care Indicators:

- Number of health care providers per 1,000 residents

Data Limitations

Since the analyses in this project involve comparisons between 1991, 1996, and 2001 Census data and Statistics Canada changes definitions or compilations for some indicators between census years, only inter-census comparisons of indicators with the same definitions are made. For indicators where changes are significant, results are presented separately. For example, level of education was modified from using the population 15 years of age and older in 1991 and 1996 to using the population 20 years of age and older in the 2001 census. As such, level of education is presented for 2001 separately from 1996 and 1991. In instances where a significant change occurred between the 1991 and 1996 census (e.g., Aboriginal identity), data for the earlier year are not presented.

Second, the census data used in this report have been compiled at the census subdivision (CSD) level, which is generally equivalent to municipalities. However, the use of CSDs means that this analysis may be affected by area suppression. Designed to protect the confidentiality of individual respondents, area suppression refers to the practice of deleting all characteristic data for regions with total populations of less than 40 (Statistics Canada, 1999a). This process may result in minor discrepancies between these numbers and those published by Statistics Canada. [3]

Third, the reclassification of some CSDs to different geographic zones between census years changes the population living in each geographic zone across time. In short, since the CSDs within each geographic zone are not exactly the same between census years some of the over-time changes observed may be a function of this reclassification. Though the total provincial figures are not susceptible to this issue, care should be taken when comparing between census years within each geographic zone. For the population change data presented in Sections A.1 and A.2, however, CSD reclassification is overridden since the results for 1996 are standardized to 2001 census boundaries for calculating the 1996 to 2001 rate of population change and the 1991 results are standardized to the 1996 boundaries for calculating the 1991 to 1996 rate of population change.

Fourth, the MIZ system is, as mentioned, an appropriate measure of rurality since it incorporates the economic and social connections between smaller communities and larger urban centres. Relying exclusively on size and commuting proportions, however, can result in an over-estimation of the rural designation. For example, in instances where a community has a population of less than 10,000 and is within commuting distance to a CMA or CA, but the local job market is strong and independent such that less than 50% of the population commutes to the nearby urban centre, this community would be designated as rural. Hence, even though the community may have access to the amenities and services of the nearby urban centre, it is designated as rural because of its size and non-commuting patterns.

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[3] The use of the smaller CSDs, as opposed to census divisions (CDs), as the building blocks of the urban / rural configuration increases the likelihood of area suppression. This limitation is somewhat offset by the ability of CSDs to provide greater precision in population size and commuting flows (McNiven et al., 2000).

Fifth, Census data in No MIZ zones and Aboriginal data everywhere have limited reliability. Depending on the province, the proportion of Aboriginal people in No MIZ varies between just over 1% and over 67%. Some First Nations, however, do not participate in the census and are therefore not captured. Furthermore, our indicator captures people who self-identify as Aboriginal. Changes over time in that number may be due to changes in birth/death rates but also to a varying number of individuals self-identifying. Then, some of our indicators are derived from Statistics Canada's 20% sample which, in zones with small populations, becomes slightly less reliable.

Lastly, it should be understood that the least integrated MIZ zones are not necessarily the most geographically remote. Since commuting patterns may be for longer periods than just daily commutes (it can be weekly or even less often), individuals in a CSD may commute over greater distances than what is typically observed among daily commuters. Thus, a CSD that is geographically remote from an urban centre may be classified as weakly, moderately, or even strongly integrated with a CMA/CA because of its commuting patterns.

Please note, to see a map of the Statistical Area Classification for Canada in 2001, go to the Statistics Canada website (2Hwww.statcan.ca) and click on "Census," then click on "Reference Maps" and then click on "Statistical Area Classification." The exact URL, for English, is
3Hhttp://geodepot.statcan.ca/Diss/Maps/ReferenceMaps/n_sac_e.cfm
and for French is
4Hhttp://geodepot.statcan.ca/Diss/Maps/ReferenceMaps/n_sac_f.cfm

For the population count for 1996 and 2001 for the Statistical Area Classification, go to the Statistics Canada website (5Hwww.statcan.ca) and click on "Census", then click on "Data" on the left-hand panel, then click on "Population and Dwelling Counts" and then click on "Statistical Area Classification." The exact URL, for English, is
6Hhttp://www12.statcan.ca/english/census01/products/standard/popdwell/Table-SAC.cfm
and for French is
7Hhttp://www12.statcan.ca/francais/census01/products/standard/popdwell/Table-SAC.cfm

For selected socio-economic characteristics for larger urban centres (CMAs and CAs) and for rural and small town areas (non-CMA/CA areas), go to the Statistics Canada website (8Hwww.statcan.ca) and click on "Census", then click on "Data" on the left-hand panel, then click on "Highlight Tables" and then scroll down and click on "Statistical Area Classification." The exact URL, for English, is
9Hhttp://www12.statcan.ca/english/census01/products/highlight/SAC/Page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo=PR&Code=01&Table=1a&StartRec=1&Sort=2&B1=Age&B2=Counts
and for French is
10Hhttp://www12.statcan.ca/english/census01/products/highlight/SAC/Page.cfm?Lang=F&Geo=PR&Code=01&Table=1a&StartRec=1&Sort=2&B1=Age&B2=Counts

A detailed set of socio-economic characteristics by the Statistical Area Classification for the 2001 Census of Population is available for $60 by going to the Statistics Canada website (11Hwww.statcan.ca) and click on "Census," then click on "Data" on the left-hand panel, then scroll down and click on "Profiles" and then scroll down and click on "Statistical Area Classification." The exact URL in English is
12Hhttp://www.statcan.ca:8096/bsolc/english/bsolc?catno=95F0495XCB2001012
and for French is
13Hhttp://www.statcan.ca:8096/bsolc/francais/bsolc?catno=95F0495XCB2001012

FINDINGS

A. Population Indicators

KEY FINDINGS

A.1 Population Distribution and Change

- In 2001, rural and small town residents comprised 53.5% of the total population of Newfoundland and Labrador, down from 55.4% in 1991. *Moderate* and *Weak MIZ* zones were the most populated of the rural zones (comprising 24.4% and 20.9% of the total provincial population, respectively). *Strong* and *No MIZ* zones were home to just 3.5% and 4.7% of the provincial population, respectively.

- While the total population of Newfoundland and Labrador declined in both inter-census periods, most of the contraction is due to a declining rural population. Only the rural population declined in the first half of the 1990s (by 5.1%). Though both urban and rural populations declined after 1996, the losses occurring in rural and small town zones were much greater (10.6% compared to 2.6%). All rural zones experienced population contraction in both inter-census periods, however, the losses between 1996 and 2001 were much greater and more consistent across *MIZ* zones (ranging from a low of 10.0% in *Weak MIZ* zones to a high of 11.2% in *No MIZ* zones).

A.2 Newfoundland and Labrador - Canada Population Comparison

- Rural Newfoundland and Labrador comprised a much larger share of the total population compared to the national rural share in 2001 (53.5% compared to 20.6%). Much of this difference can be attributed to the much larger proportion of *Moderate* and *Weak MIZ* residents in Newfoundland and Labrador than in Canada (of a combined 45.3% compared to 14.2%).

- Population losses between 1996 and 2001 in rural Newfoundland and Labrador were much greater than that of rural Canada (10.6% compared to 0.4 %).

A.3 Population Age Structure and Global Dependency Ratio

- Compared to the urban population, Newfoundland and Labrador's rural population is less youthful, with smaller proportions of children, youth and young adults and larger proportions of adults and seniors.

- The average age of the population in the province increased between 1991 and 2001, with the age profile of the rural population increasing the most rapidly.

A.4 Population Gender Structure

- Though the male-female ratio declined throughout the province between 1991 and 2001, rural and small town zones continued in 2001 to have a higher ratio than the province's urban centres, with 99.0 men per 100 women compared to 93.0 men per 100 women, respectively.

A.5 Aboriginal Identity Population

- In 2001, a larger share of the rural than urban population was comprised of Aboriginal individuals (5.6% compared to 1.5%, respectively). *No MIZ* zones had the largest proportion of Aboriginal residents (12.3%), though *Weak MIZ* zones were home to the largest absolute number of Aboriginal people (9,260) in 2001.

A.6 Home Language

- The vast majority of both the urban and rural populations spoke English most often at home in 2001. In fact, less than 1% spoke French or a non-official language in each geographic zone of the province in 2001.

Summary

Since 1996, the share of the population residing in Newfoundland and Labrador's rural and small town zones has declined, and every rural zone has experienced population contraction of 10% or 11%. While the greatest differences in population characteristics are observed between urban and rural zones of the province for most indicators, differences among rural zones are still apparent.

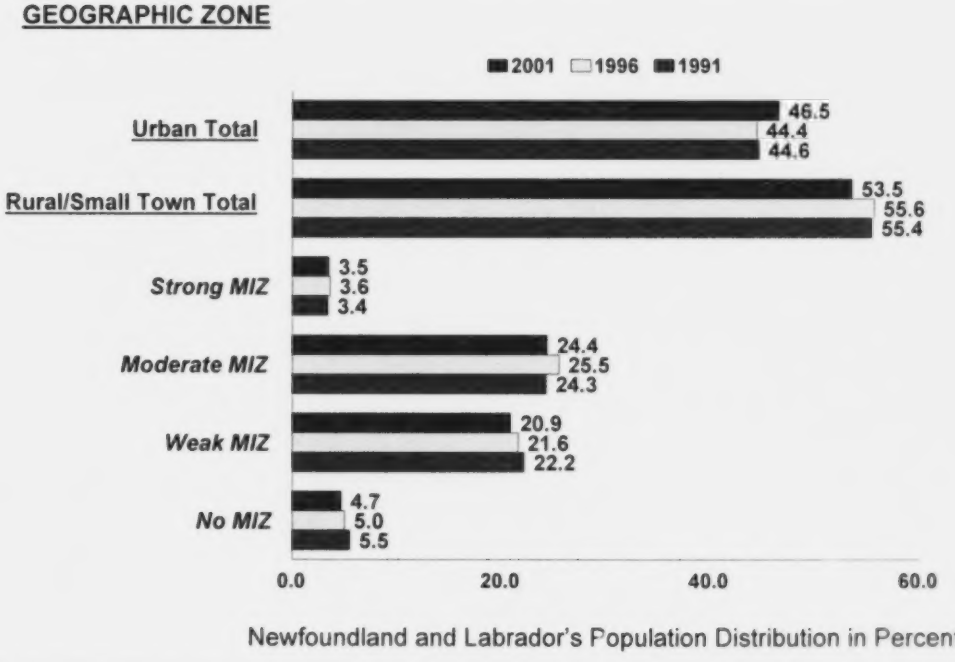
A.1 POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND CHANGE

Rural and small town zones experienced more substantial population losses than did the province's urban centres.

We begin our examination of population by first looking at the proportion of Newfoundland and Labrador's population distributed between urban and rural zones and between each of the four MIZ geographic zones in 2001, 1996, and 1991. Figure 2 demonstrates that rural Newfoundland and Labrador accounted for 53.5% of the total population in 2001 (274,392 of the 512,930 inhabitants of Newfoundland and Labrador resided in a rural area or a small town – see Appendix Table 1). Of the rural zones, *Moderate* and *Weak MIZ* zones were home to the largest shares of the population in 2001 (24.4% and 20.9%, respectively), while just 3.5% and 4.7% of the province's population resided in *Strong* and *No MIZ* zones, respectively.

Primarily as a result of the declining share in the relatively heavily populated *Weak MIZ* zones between 1991 and 2001 (from 22.2% to 20.9%), the rural share of the total population decreased by 1.9 percentage points during this 10-year period.

Figure 2: Rural and Small Town Zones Comprised a Smaller Share of the Provincial Population in 2001 than in 1991



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

In Figure 3, the inter-census population percentage changes from 1996 to 2001 and from 1991 to 1996 are presented for each geographic zone of the province using constant boundaries.[4]

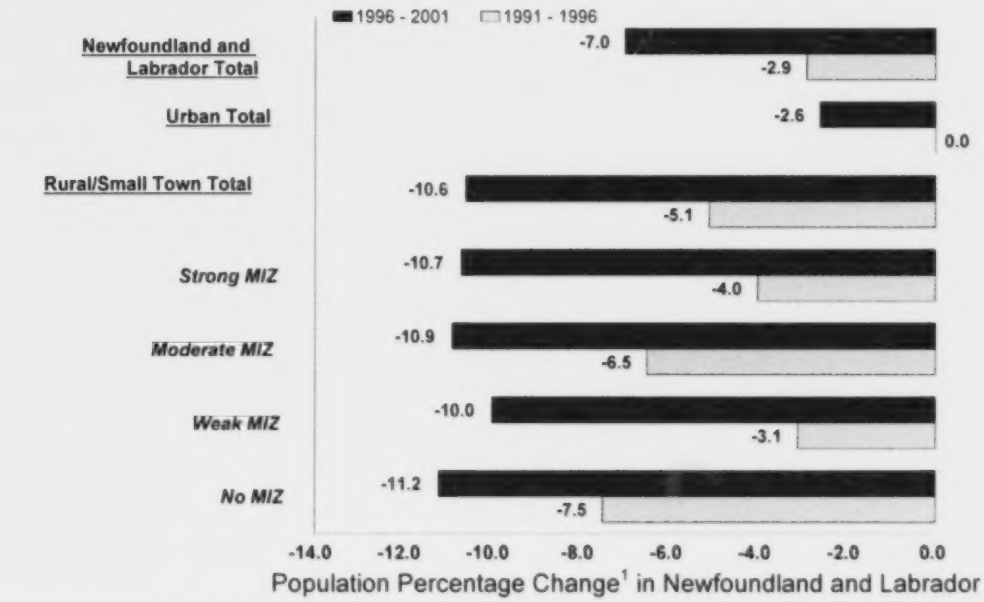
Between 1991 and 1996, the provincial population declined by 2.9%. The urban population remained stable during this period, while Newfoundland and Labrador's rural and small town population declined by 5.1%. *No MIZ* zones experienced the greatest population loss during this period (of 7.5%).

Greater population losses occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador between 1996 and 2001, as urban centres also began to lose a portion of their population (2.6%) and the rural population decline accelerated (to 10.6%). Unlike the earlier five-year period, in which rural population losses ranged from just 3.1% in *Weak MIZ* zones to 7.5% in *No MIZ*, each of the four MIZ zones experienced population losses of 10% or more in the latter half of the 1990s.

The increase in the share of Newfoundland and Labrador's urban population in the latter half of the 1990s, combined with the substantial population contraction in rural and small town zones, together suggest a pattern of migration from the province's rural zones to its urban sites in the latter half of the 1990s. The provincial population loss of 7.0% during this period also indicates substantial migration out of the province, a large portion of which was likely due to out-migration of rural and small town residents. Inter-provincial migration data, in fact, show that Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest net out-migration rate of the Canadian provinces between 1996 and 2001 (Statistics Canada, 2002a). These population trends are no doubt a function of the declining economy of Newfoundland and Labrador and the decline of the fishing industry in particular.

[4] As mentioned in the Methods Section, constant boundaries are used to override the effects of CSD reclassifications between census years. Population change between 1991 and 2001 is not presented because 1991 data are not available in constant (2001) boundaries.

Figure 3: Each of the Four Rural Zones Lost 10% or More of Their Population Between 1996 and 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] 1991 data are adjusted to 1996 boundaries for the calculation of 1991 to 1996 change and 1996 data are adjusted to 2001 boundaries for the calculation of 1996 to 2001 change.

A.2 NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR – CANADA POPULATION COMPARISON

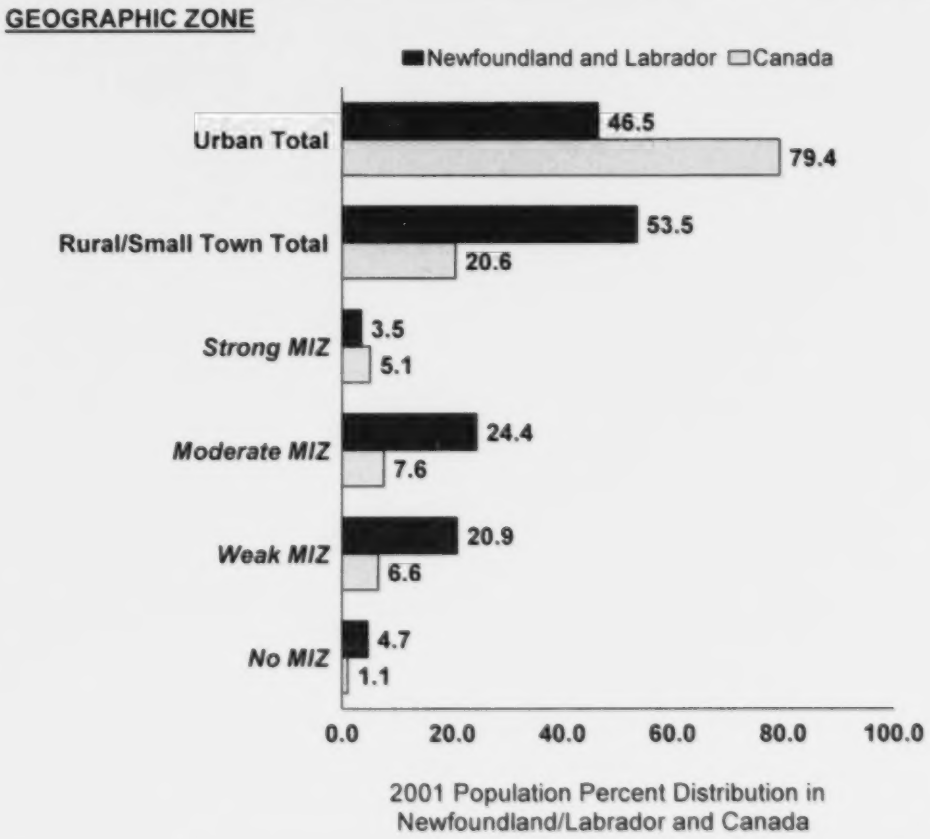
Newfoundland and Labrador is the only province in Canada with a larger share of its population residing in rural and small town zones than in urban centres.

Having examined Newfoundland and Labrador's population, it is useful to situate these provincial data within the larger Canadian context. Figure 4 presents the population percent distribution across geographic zones for Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador (see Appendix Table 2 for the distributions for each of the 13 provinces and territories). Compared to Canada as a whole, Newfoundland and Labrador has a proportionally much larger rural population (53.5% compared to 20.6%). In fact,

Newfoundland and Labrador is the only province with a larger share of its population residing in a rural region or a small town than in an urban centre (Appendix Table 2).

With few exceptions the distribution of the population within rural and small town zones across Canada follows a pattern whereby the smallest proportion of the population is located in *No MIZ* and *Strong MIZ* zones. Newfoundland and Labrador not only follows this pattern, but it has, proportionally, the largest *Moderate MIZ* and the second largest *Weak MIZ* populations in the country (comprising 24.4% and 20.9% of the provincial population, respectively).

Figure 4: Proportionally Speaking, Newfoundland and Labrador's Rural Population is Two and One Half Times Larger than the Canadian Rural Population



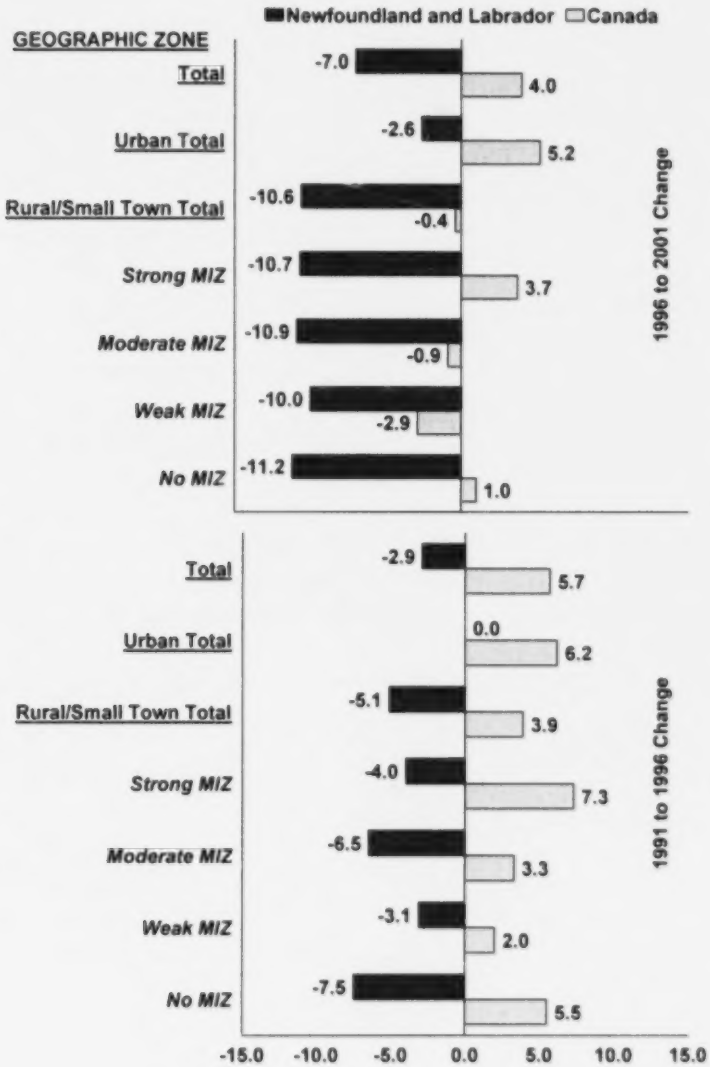
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001

Using standardized boundaries, Figure 5 highlights the Newfoundland and Labrador – Canada comparison of population percentage change in each geographic zone between 1996 and 2001 and 1991 and 1996 (see Appendix Table 3 for the population change within each province and territory).

The figure reveals much greater population losses in each inter-census period in Newfoundland and Labrador than in Canada as a whole. Beginning with the 1991-1996 inter-census period, Figure 5 shows that while all of Canada's geographic zones experienced population growth, each of Newfoundland and Labrador's rural zones contracted (though its urban population remained stable). In the subsequent five-year period the nation's rural population began to decline while its urban population continued to grow. Newfoundland and Labrador's population losses, in contrast, not only continued, but increased in rural zones and expanded to include its urban centres.

The population losses that have occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador, in fact, surpass the vast majority of losses experienced by any other province or territory (Appendix Table 3). Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia are the only other regions that experienced rural population contraction between 1991 and1996 (2.0 and 0.6, respectively compared to 5.1 in Newfoundland and Labrador). Between 1996 and 2001, eight of the thirteen provinces / territories experienced rural population losses, with Newfoundland and Labrador incurring the second largest proportional contraction of their rural population (the Yukon experienced a contraction of 18.9%).

Figure 5: Compared to Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador's Rural Population Declined at a Much Greater Rate



Population Percentage Change[1] in Newfoundland/Labrador and Canada

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] 1991 data are adjusted to 1996 boundaries for the calculation of 1991 to 1996 change and 1996 data are adjusted to 2001 boundaries for the calculation of 1996 to 2001 change.

A.3 POPULATION AGE STRUCTURE AND GLOBAL DEPENDENCY RATIO

Newfoundland and Labrador has a remarkably consistent age structure throughout its geographic zones, though its rural population is slightly less youthful.

The changing age structure of a population helps to forecast future demand for services such as education and health care. It can also inform future changes in the labour market structure and contribute to an understanding of how these changes may affect the economy.

Five age groups were used to analyze the age structure of the population. These are: 0-14 years, 15-24 years, 25-44 years, 45-64 years and 65 years of age and over. These categories were chosen because they represent five defined demographic groups: children, youth, young adults, adults, and seniors.

Table 1 presents the percentage distribution of the population in 2001 across each of the five age categories, and for each of the geographic zones (see also Appendix Tables 4 and 5). Perhaps the most striking observation from Table 1 is that Newfoundland and Labrador has a remarkably consistent age structure throughout its geographic zones. At the same time, a slightly less youthful age structure can be identified in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2001, children, youth and young adults comprised 59.7% of the rural population, compared to 64.1% of the urban population. Adults and seniors comprised 40.3% of Newfoundland and Labrador's rural population in this census year, while just 35.8% of urbanites were in these two age categories.

Somewhat greater variation is observed within the province's rural and small town zones. *Moderate MIZ* zones had the least youthful population in 2001, with, for example, the smallest share of children (16.7%) and the largest share of seniors (13.8%) in the province. *No MIZ* zones, in contrast, had the largest share of children (18.4%) in the province and the smallest senior population (11.4%) in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Overall, however, these variations in age structure are not great and the data presented in Table 1 depict a greater degree of similarity than difference among geographic zones of the province.

Table 1: The Rural Population has a Slightly Less "Youthful" Age Structure Compared to the Urban Population

	Population Age Percent Distribution; 2001					
Geographic Zone	**Total**	**Children** (0-14 years)	**Youth** (15-24 years)	**Young Adults** (25-44 years)	**Adults** (45-64 years)	**Seniors** (65 years +)
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	100.0	17.5	14.4	29.8	26.6	11.6
Urban Total	100.0	17.7	15.1	31.3	25.4	10.4
Rural/Small Town Total	100.0	17.4	13.7	28.6	27.6	12.7
Strong MIZ	100.0	16.9	14.5	28.1	28.8	11.7
Moderate MIZ	100.0	16.7	13.6	27.6	28.3	13.8
Weak MIZ	100.0	18.0	13.8	29.6	26.7	11.8
No MIZ	100.0	18.4	13.3	29.5	27.3	11.4

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001

Table 2 presents the 1991 to 2001 age distribution percentage change for each age category and each geographic zone of the province. The table demonstrates that the Newfoundland and Labrador population as a whole is aging. Between 1991 and 2001, the proportion of children, youth and young adults in the province decreased by 11.1 percentage points and the proportion of adults and seniors increased by 11.0 percentage points.

Similar aging trends are observed for urban and for rural and small town populations. However, just as the rural and small town population was observed to be slightly less youthful than the urban population, Table 2 reveals that the rural population is aging at a greater rate. Between 1991 and 2001, the share of the rural population comprised of children, youth and young adults declined by 12.8 percentage points. The share of the urban population comprised of these age categories, in contrast, fell by only 9.1 percentage points.

Table 2: Compared to the Urban Population, the Rural and Small Town Population is Aging at a Greater Rate

Percentage Point Change in Share of Individuals in Each Age Class; 1991-2001, 1996-2001, and 1991-1996

Geographic Zone	Children (0-14 years)			Youth (15-24 years)			Young Adults (25-44 years)			Adults (45-64 years)			Seniors (65+ years)		
	1991 - 2001	1996 - 2001	1991 - 1996	1991 - 2001	1996 - 2001	1991 - 1996	1991 - 2001	1996 - 2001	1991 - 1996	1991 - 2001	1996 - 2001	1991 - 1996	1991 - 2001	1996 - 2001	1991 - 1996
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	-5.0	-2.6	-2.4	-3.5	-1.7	-1.8	-2.6	-2.5	-0.1	9.1	5.2	3.9	1.9	1.5	0.4
Urban Total	-3.8	-1.9	-1.9	-2.6	-1.2	-1.4	-2.7	-2.4	-0.3	7.7	4.2	3.5	1.4	1.2	0.2
Rural/Small Town Total	-5.9	-3.0	-2.9	-4.4	-2.3	-2.1	-2.5	-2.6	0.1	10.3	6.0	4.3	2.5	1.9	0.6
Strong MIZ	-7.3	-3.2	-4.1	-2.9	-2.5	-0.4	-3.7	-2.8	-0.9	12.1	6.9	5.2	1.8	1.6	0.2
Moderate MIZ	-6.2	-3.2	-3.0	-4.3	-2.4	-1.9	-2.7	-2.6	-0.1	10.4	6.0	4.4	2.8	2.2	0.6
Weak MIZ	-5.3	-2.9	-2.4	-4.3	-1.9	-2.4	-2.4	-2.8	0.4	9.8	5.7	4.1	2.3	1.9	0.4
No MIZ	-5.6	-2.9	-2.7	-5.8	-3.2	-2.6	-0.7	-1.7	1.0	10.1	6.7	3.4	1.5	0.9	0.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

Within rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador, *Strong MIZ* zones aged the most rapidly, with a combined loss of 13.9 percentage points of its child, youth and young adult populations between 1991 and 2001, compared to losses of 13.2, 12.0, and 12.1 percentage points in *Moderate*, *Weak* and *No MIZ* zones, respectively. While differences within rural zones of the province exist, they are clearly not as substantial as the difference in aging trends observed between urban and rural geographic zones.

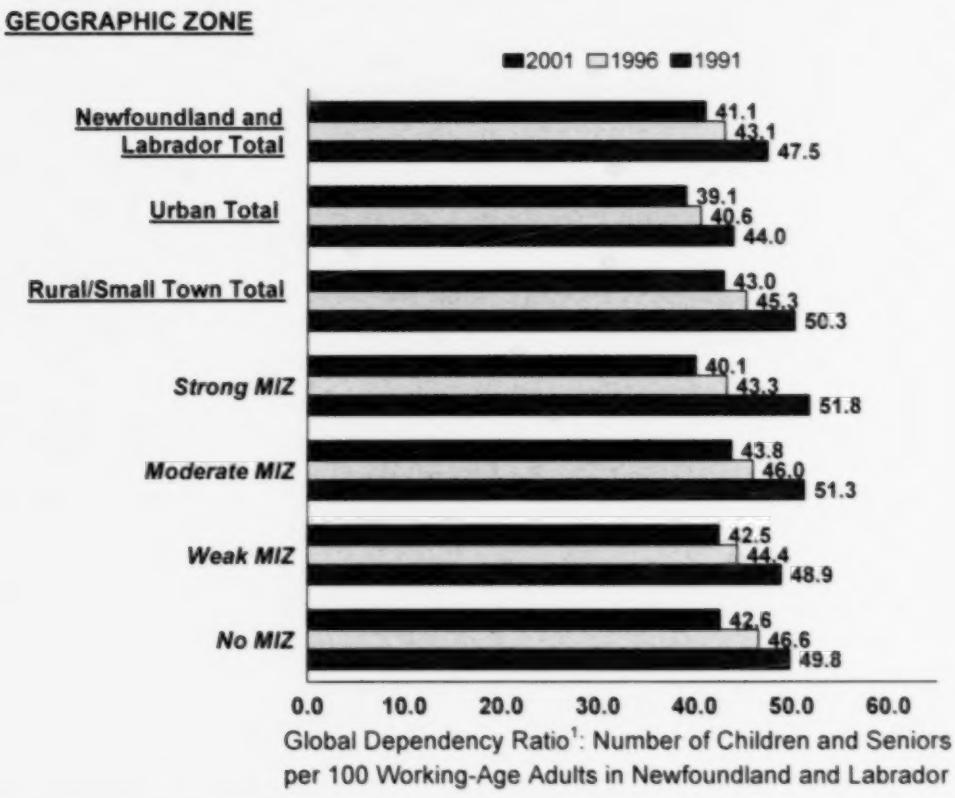
Though urban and rural residents are equally likely to be children, a slightly higher share of the rural population is comprised of seniors and therefore, rural residents as a whole are somewhat less likely than urbanites to be participating in the paid labour force. The global dependency ratio, which measures the proportion of children (aged 0 to 14 years) and seniors (aged 65 years and over) to the working age population (aged 15 to 64), should, then, be slightly higher in rural zones than in urban centres. Figure 6 indeed reveals this to be the case. In 2001, the urban dependency ratio was 39.1 children and seniors per 100 adults of working age, while the rural and small town ratio was 43.0. With one exception, all rural zones had a global dependency ratio similar to the rural total. A lower ratio (40.1) is observed for *Strong MIZ* zones because these zones had both a small share of children and a small share of seniors, whereas the other three rural zones had either a relatively small child or small senior population in 2001, but not both.

Figure 6 also depicts a lower global dependency ratio in 2001 than in 1991 in all geographic zones of the province, reflecting a simultaneous decline in the share of the population comprised of children and an increase in the share of the population comprised of adults (Table 2).

The age distribution findings in Tables 1 and 2 and Figure 6 have important government policy implications with respect to services targeted toward children, teens, adults and seniors. First, though age differences between urban and rural zones were slight, the greater proportion of seniors in rural and small town zones of Newfoundland and Labrador suggest that seniors-related services are in greater relative demand in these zones of the province. Initiatives such as community-based health services and long-term care facilities will have to maintain sufficient capacity to address the demand.

Second, although the proportion of children declined throughout the province between 1991 and 2001, *Weak* and *No MIZ* zones continue to have the highest proportions of children in the province. The younger age structure of these two least urban-influenced zones suggests that they have a greater overall need for children-related services. Moreover, since rural residents overall are less likely than the urban population to be adults, they are the least likely to contribute to tax revenues. As a result, the provision of services in rural Newfoundland and Labrador may be limited by a comparatively small per capita tax base. These findings suggest that governments in rural zones may be in slightly greater need of transfer payments.

Figure 6: The Global Dependency Ratio Decreased in Every Geographic Zone Between 1991 and 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Global dependency ratio is defined as the ratio of children (0-14 years of age) and senior (65 years of age and over) populations to the total working age population (15-64 years of age).

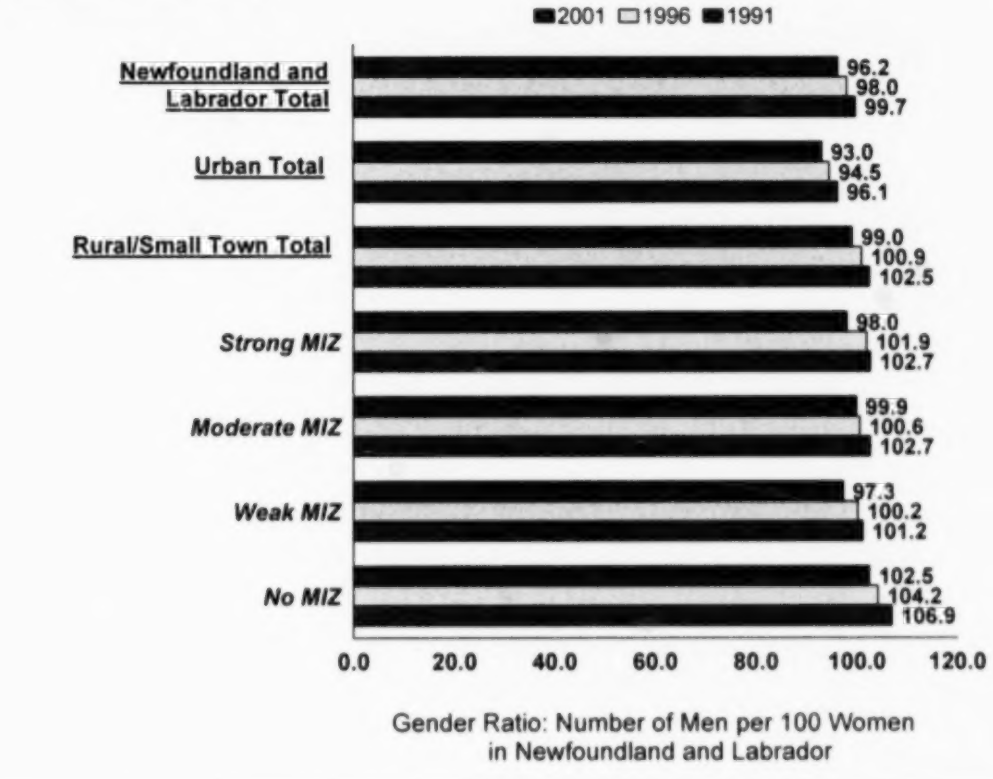
A.4 POPULATION GENDER STRUCTURE

A higher male-to-female ratio is observed in rural than in urban zones of Newfoundland and Labrador

Figure 7 illustrates that in 2001, there were fewer men than women in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador (96.2 men per 100 women). A smaller ratio is observed in urban centres (93.0 men per 100 women), while greater gender parity is observed for the rural and small town total (99.0 men per 100 women). *No MIZ* were the only zones in 2001 to exhibit a greater number of men than women (with 102.5 men per 100 women).

The figure also demonstrates that male representation decreased in all geographic zones between 1991 and 2001.

Figure 7: The Male-to-Female Ratio is Higher in Rural than in Urban Newfoundland and Labrador



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

A.5 ABORIGINAL IDENTITY POPULATION[5]

Weak and _No MIZ_ zones have the largest proportional share of Aboriginal individuals in the province.

The Aboriginal population in Canada has experienced significantly greater growth than the general population. In fact, the Registered Indian population is growing at a rate of almost twice that of the Canadian population (Corporate Information Management Directorate, 2000). Further, the Registered Indian population of Atlantic Canada is projected to grow by 25% between 2000 and 2021 (Indian and Northern Affairs, 2000). Individuals with this ethnic background have specific needs with respect to government services and the demand for these services will likely intensify as the population grows (Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission, 1999).

In 2001, 3.7% of the population of Newfoundland and Labrador was comprised of Aboriginal individuals (Figure 8). A larger share resided in rural than in urban geographic zones (with Aboriginal individuals comprising 1.5% of the urban population compared to 5.6% of the rural and small town total). A much larger absolute number of Aboriginal people resided in rural zones than in urban centres in 2001 as well (15,335 compared to just 3,440 in urban centres; Appendix Table 6). With 8.8 and 12.3 percent of their populations comprised of Aboriginal individuals, respectively, *Weak* and *No MIZ* zones had the largest proportional Aboriginal population in the province in 2001. In terms of absolute numbers, however, there were three times more Aboriginal individuals in *Weak* than in *No MIZ* zones in this census year (9,260 compared to 3,000).

Figure 9 indicates that the proportion of Aboriginal individuals in Newfoundland and Labrador increased by 1.1 percentage points between 1996 and 2001.[6] The share of the urban population comprised of Aboriginal individuals increased by 0.6 percentage points, while the rural share increased by 1.6 percentage points. *Weak MIZ* zones exhibited the largest proportional increase in Aboriginal representation during this five-year period (2.6%), followed closely by *No MIZ* zones (2.4%).[7]

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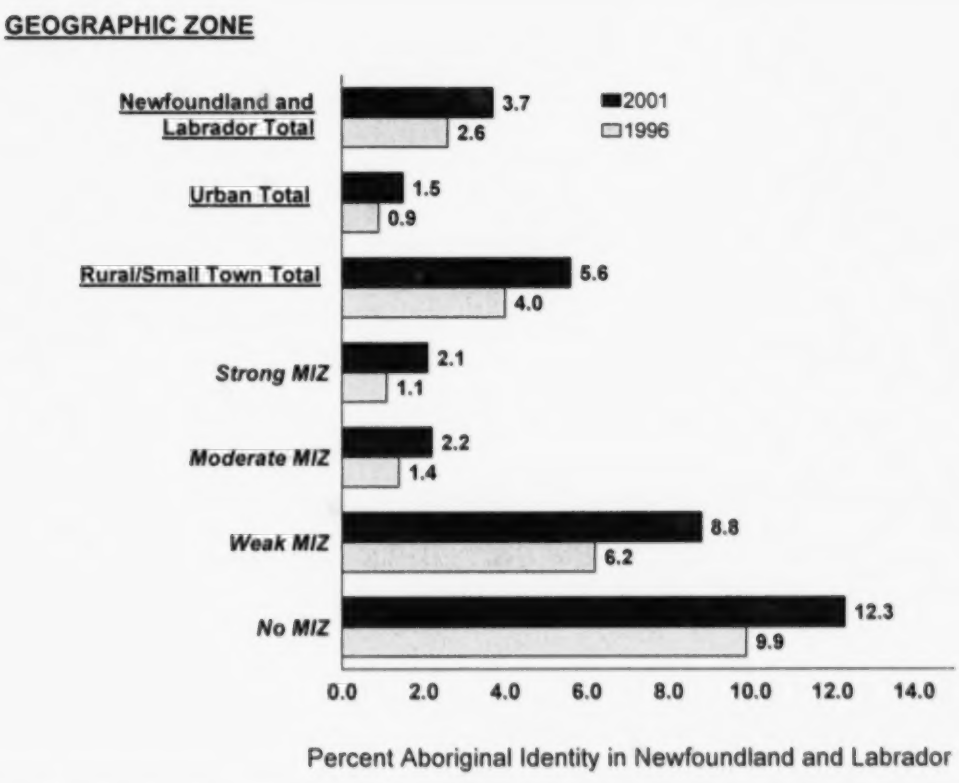
[5] Refers to persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e. North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo) and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada and/or who were members of an Indian Band or First Nation (Statistics Canada, 1999a).

[6] Aboriginal identity is not presented for 1991 because of significant differences in the definition in this year.

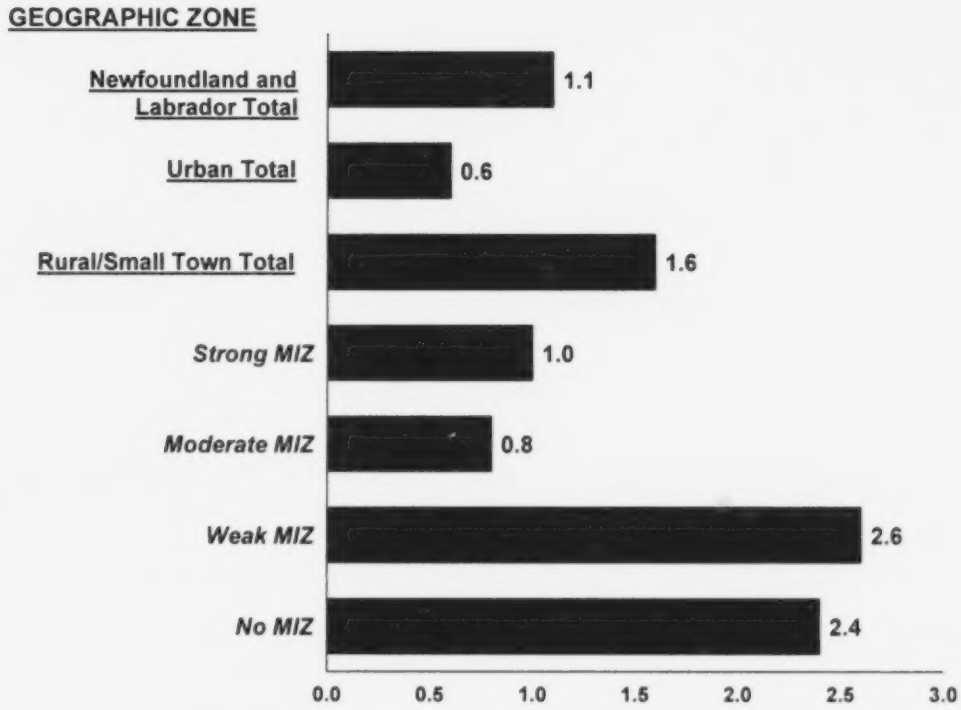
[7] Some of the increase in the Aboriginal population may be a result of an increasing tendency for individuals to self-report as Aboriginal.

Figure 8: The Share of the Population that is Aboriginal is Higher in Rural than in Urban Areas of Newfoundland and Labrador



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001 and 1996

Figure 9: The Share of the Population that is Aboriginal Increased to a Greater Extent in Rural than in Urban Zones



1996 to 2001 Percentage Point Change in the Share of the Population that is Aboriginal Within Each Geographic Zone in Newfoundland and Labrador

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001 and 1996

A.6 HOME LANGUAGE

By examining the language spoken most often at home, we can garner an indication of the language diversity in rural versus urban Newfoundland and Labrador. Home language can also be used as a proxy for ethnicity. Table 3 presents the proportions of the population speaking one of Canada's official languages (English or French), speaking a non-official language (not English and not French), and speaking more than one language (multiple languages) most often at home (see also Appendix Table 7).

Table 3 reveals that the vast majority of the provincial population spoke English most often at home in each census year. This is also true of the urban and rural populations and for all three census years. Similar proportions of English-speaking residents are observed in each of the four rural zones, though in each census year, *Weak MIZ* zones

had a slightly smaller proportion (98.6% in 2001 and 98.5% in 1996 and 1991). Of *Weak MIZ* residents not reporting English as their home language, non-official languages, rather than French, were most commonly reported (1.1% in each census year). Overall, the data in Table 3 depict a great deal of similarity in home language both among geographic zones of Newfoundland and Labrador and across time.

Table 3: English is by Far the Language Spoken Most Often at Home Throughout Rural and Urban Newfoundland and Labrador

Home Language[1] Percent Distribution, 2001, 1996, and 1991

Geographic Zone	English			French			Non-official language[2]			Multiple Responses		
	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	99.1	99.1	99.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Urban Total	99.1	99.1	99.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1
Rural/ Small Town Total	99.1	99.1	98.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.2
Strong MIZ	99.9	100.0	99.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Moderate MIZ	99.3	99.5	99.6	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Weak MIZ	98.6	98.5	98.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
No MIZ	99.5	99.6	96.1	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.2	2.4	0.0	0.1	0.4

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Home language is based on the language "most often spoken at home" for all three censuses. For the 2001 Census, the home language question asked for the language spoken "most often at home" AND the languages spoken "on a regular basis at home." The 2001 data includes only the language "most often spoken at home" which is the equivalent of "home language" in the 1991 and 1996 censuses.

[2] "Non-official languages" include all languages excluding English and French.

SUMMARY

The above discussion highlights some of the implications for each of the population indicators. We can also explore possible inferences by linking these results together. The proportional shift of Newfoundland and Labrador's population from rural to urban geographic zones, and the considerable population losses that occurred throughout the 1990s in rural zones, will be the focus of this summary.

First, the increase in the urban share of the population after 1996, and the corresponding decrease in the share residing in rural zones, suggests that a portion of rural population contraction was due to urban migration. With the collapse of the ground fishing industry in the 1990s, it is also likely that some rural individuals migrated to urban centres in search of improved labour market and educational opportunities. The aging trend of Newfoundland and Labrador's rural population may also be explained in part by the out-migration of young adults. Research shows in fact that most of the population losses from rural regions are among individuals between the ages of 15 and 24 (Dupuy et al., 2000).

While urban migration partially accounts for the rural population losses of the 1990s, inter-provincial migration was also largely responsible, with the majority of migrants moving to Ontario and Alberta in search, no doubt, of better labour market opportunities (Statistics Canada, 2002a).

Because Newfoundland and Labrador has a larger share of its population residing in rural regions than in urban centres, and because substantial population losses occurred in each of the four rural and small town zones, the analysis of the census data by MIZ zones is of particular interest in understanding the rural and small town populations of this province.

B. Economic Indicators

KEY FINDINGS

B.1 Labour Market Indicators

- In 2001, the urban labour force participation (LFP) rate was 62.9%, while the rural and small town LFP rate was just 53.1%. Less variation was observed within rural Newfoundland and Labrador, with LFP rates ranging from a low of 50.3% in *Moderate MIZ* to a high of 56.2% in *Weak MIZ* zones in 2001.
- LFP rates fell throughout the province between 1991 and 1996. Though they increased in each geographic zone in the subsequent five-year period, every geographic zone had a lower LFP rate in 2001 than in 1991.
- In 2001, the rural and small town unemployment rate was much higher than the urban unemployment rate (31.4% compared to 12.4%), and ranged from 26.9% in *Strong MIZ* zones to 41.3% in *No MIZ* zones of rural Newfoundland and Labrador. *No MIZ* zones not only had the highest unemployment rate in the province in 2001, they were also the only zones to experience an increase in unemployment rates between 1991 and 2001.
- Both the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) industry classification system for the 1991 and 1996 census and the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) classification system for the 2001 census reveal that the rural and small town population dominates employment in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting and in manufacturing industries, while urbanites are more strongly represented in service industries.
- Rural and small town residents were more likely than urbanites to be self-employed in 2001 (8.3% compared to 6.5%).

B.2 Income

- Though urban median incomes exceeded rural median incomes in each census year, *Moderate* and *No MIZ* were the only zones in the province with a higher median income in 2001 than in 1996.
- Rural and small town residents were more likely than their urban counterparts to be considered low-income in 2001 (20.5% compared to 17.2%, respectively). *Strong MIZ* zones, however, had roughly the same proportion of low-income individuals as did urban centres (17.1%). The population in *Moderate MIZ* zones were the most likely in the province to be considered low income in 2001 (21.3%).
- In 2001, rural and small town residents garnered a larger proportion of their income from social transfer payments than did urban citizens (29.6% compared to 14.2%, respectively). Among the former group, *Moderate* and *No MIZ* residents relied the most heavily on this form of income (32.6% and 32.0%, respectively).

Summary

Residents of rural Newfoundland and Labrador are by far the most economically disadvantaged in the province. Within rural and small town regions of the province, *Strong MIZ* zones most closely approximate the economic conditions found in urban centres, followed, on some indicators, by *Weak MIZ* zones. *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones, in comparison, were found to be the least economically-advantaged in the province. All geographic zones exhibited signs of economic improvement after 1996, though in many regards, economic conditions in 2001 were less favorable than ten-years prior. In all, the analyses of the indicators over time and among rural zones affirm the economic heterogeneity of rural Newfoundland and Labrador.

B.1 LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

B.1.1 Labour Force Participation and Unemployment Rates

Rural labour force participation rates are much lower and unemployment rates much higher than are urban rates.

In 2001, the Newfoundland and Labrador labour force had 241,500 members (Appendix Table 8) for a labour force participation (LFP) rate of 57.6% (Figure 10). The urban LFP rate was much higher than the rural rate (62.9% compared to 53.1% in 2001). Less variation is observed within rural zones, with LFP rates ranging from a low of 50.3% in *Moderate MIZ* to a high of 56.2% in *Weak MIZ* zones.

Across the province, LFP rates declined between 1991 and 1996, but increased in the subsequent five-year period. Despite these increases, all zones had a lower LFP rate in 2001 than in 1991. The urban/rural disparity in LFP rates, however, increased from 7.8 percentage points in 1991 to 9.8 percentage points in 2001. Though *Moderate MIZ* zones had the lowest LFP rate in all three census years, *No MIZ* zones experienced the largest 1991-to-2001 decrease in LFP rates in the province of 8.2 percentage points (from 62.3% to 54.1%).

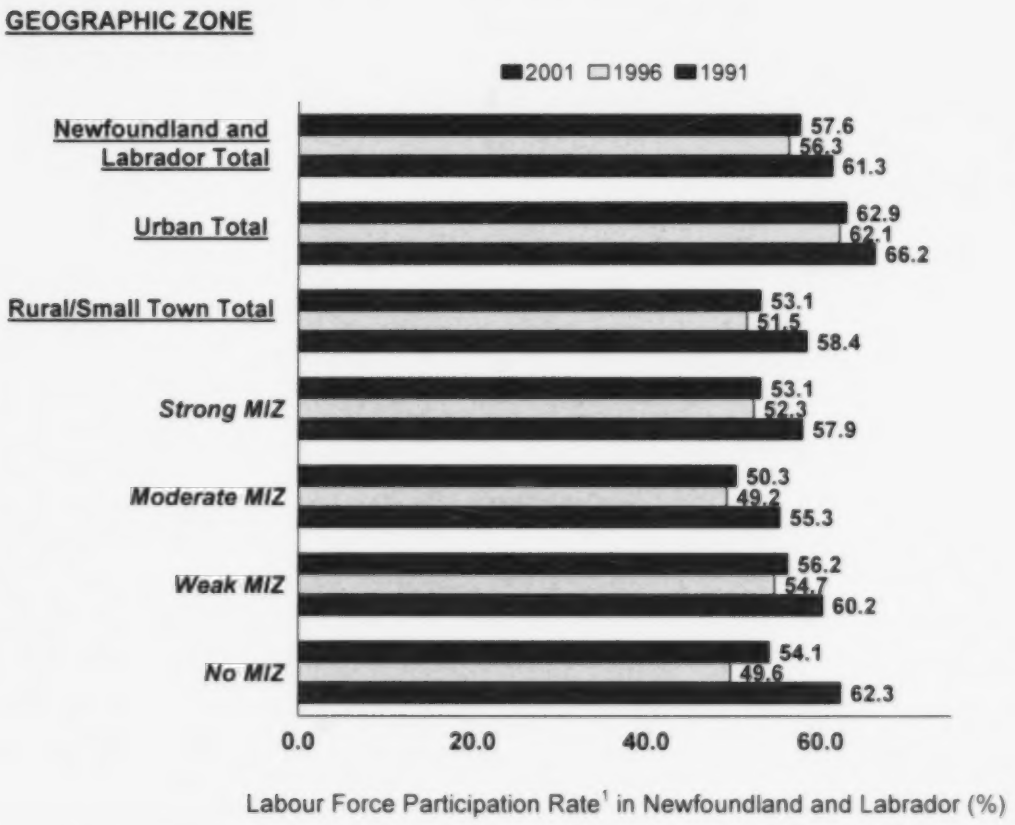
Turning to unemployment rates, Figure 11 demonstrates a similar ranking to the LFP labour market indicator between geographic zones of the province, though with much greater variation between urban and rural zones (see also Appendix Table 9). In 2001, the unemployment rate was 19 percentage points higher in rural than in urban regions of the province (31.4% compared to 12.4% in urban centres). *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones had the highest unemployment rates in the province (33.3% and 41.3%, respectively).

Unemployment rates declined in most geographic zones in each inter-census period. *Strong MIZ* zones exhibited the greatest over-time decrease between 1991 and 2001 (of 12.9%), followed by *Moderate MIZ* zones (6.2%). *No MIZ* zones, in contrast, had a higher unemployment rate in 2001 than in 1991 (increasing by 6.7%).

Overall, the combination of decreasing LFP rates and decreasing unemployment rates in most geographic zones indicate that a declining proportion of a smaller labour force were unemployed in 2001 compared to 1991, perhaps due to an upsurge in individuals choosing to attend post-secondary institutions. This is most likely to be the case in *Strong MIZ* zones, given the large decreases in unemployment rates and the corresponding decreases in LFP rates. This likelihood is supported by the fact that *Strong MIZ* zones incurred the largest 1991-to-1996 increase in post-secondary educational attainment in rural Newfoundland and Labrador (Table 7). This pattern,

however, does not apply to *No MIZ* zones since we observe a greater portion of a larger labour force who are unemployed. At the same time, *No MIZ* zones were the only zones of the province to not demonstrate increasing post-secondary educational attainment between 1991 and 1996 (Table 7).

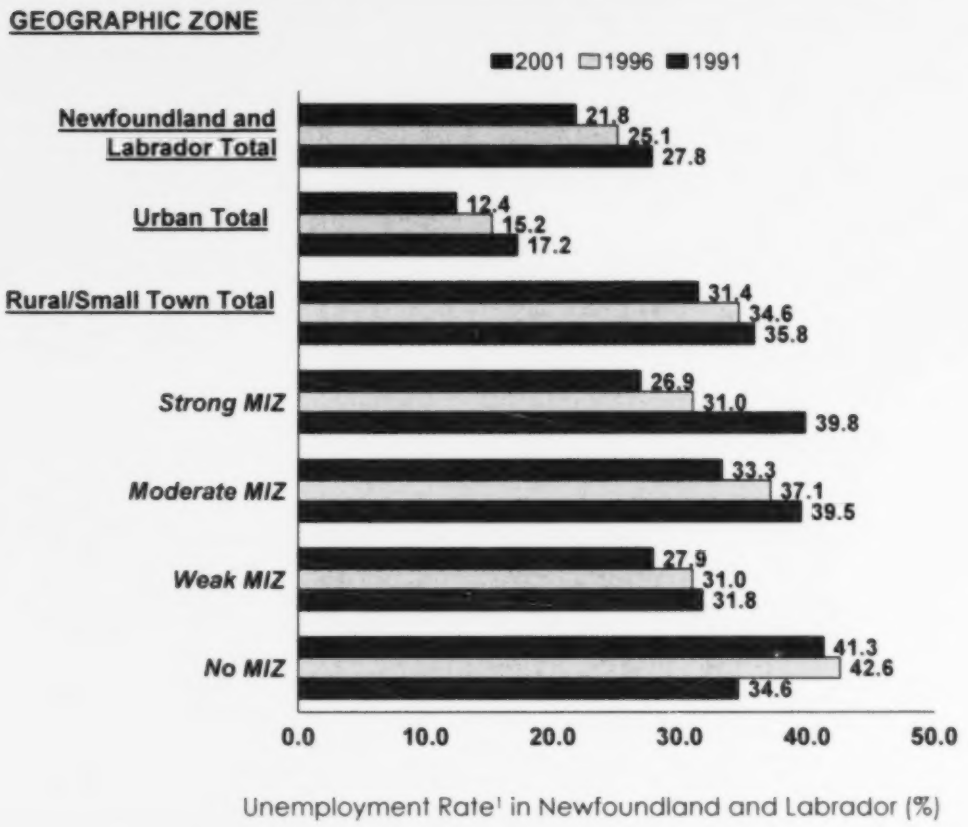
Figure 10: Labour Force Participation Rates are Substantially Lower in Rural than in Urban Newfoundland and Labrador



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] The Labour Force Participation Rate is the ratio of individuals who are currently employed or who are out of work (but looking for work) to the total number of individuals in the population who are over the age of 15.

Figure 11: *No MIZ* Zones have the Highest Unemployment Rates in Newfoundland and Labrador



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] The Unemployment Rate is based on the ratio of individuals who are currently unemployed to those who are in the labour force.

B.1.2 Industry Employment Distribution

Compared to urbanites, rural individuals are more likely to be working in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting and in both types of secondary industries and less likely to be working in all three types of service industries.

The Newfoundland and Labrador labour force can be classified based on the industry in which people are employed. This is determined by assessing the general nature of the business carried out by the individual's employer. In measuring industry employment, the 1991 and 1996 Censuses used the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system, while the 2001 Census adopted the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Comparisons between the two systems are inappropriate and the differences warrant presenting industry employment separately for 2001 and for 1996 and 1991. Beginning with the NAICS system, Table 4 presents seven broad industry categories for each geographic zone of the province for 2001 only (see also Appendix Table 10).

Employment in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting accounted for 6.7% of employment in all Newfoundland and Labrador industries in 2001. Rural and small town regions, however, eclipsed urban centres in employment in these industries by a factor of nearly 9 (12.2% compared to 1.4%). Higher representation in this type of primary industry, moreover, is observed for all four MIZ categories, and is the highest in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones of the province (13.4% and 18.5%, respectively).

Although the urban population was slightly more likely than the rural population to be working in mining and oil and gas extraction, rural residents were more likely than urbanites to be employed in secondary industries. In 2001, 7.8% of rural employment was in construction, compared to 5.1% of urban employment. But rural residents were nearly three times more likely to be employed in manufacturing than were their urban counterparts (15.4% compared to 5.5%). *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones were the most highly represented in manufacturing (16.4% and 17.3%, respectively). This category includes food manufacturing establishments such as fish plants that are employing a lot of people in coastal communities of Newfoundland and Labrador. This finding is particularly noteworthy because it implies that rural Newfoundland and Labrador is competitive in an important value-added industry (Beshiri, 2001). But we should mention that food manufacturing in Atlantic Canada is highly dependant on a sustainable natural resource as the cod fisheries closure illustrated it in 1992.

Table 4: Rural Residents are Much More Likely than Urbanites to be Working in Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting and in Manufacturing Industries

Percent Employed in Each Industry Sector (NAICS)[1], 2001

		Primary Industries		Secondary Industries		Service Industries		
Geographic Zone	Total	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	Mining and Oil & Gas Extraction	Construction	Manufacturing	Production Services[2]	Consumer Services[3]	Government-Provided Services[4]
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	100.0	6.7	2.1	6.5	10.3	20.3	25.9	28.3
Urban Total	100.0	1.4	3.0	5.1	5.5	25.4	27.3	32.3
Rural/Small Town Total	100.0	12.2	1.2	7.8	15.4	14.9	24.3	24.1
Strong MIZ	100.0	7.9	1.1	10.5	11.0	18.3	23.5	27.7
Moderate MIZ	100.0	13.4	1.0	9.3	16.4	14.9	23.3	21.7
Weak MIZ	100.0	10.3	1.2	6.1	14.6	15.0	26.5	26.4
No MIZ	100.0	18.5	1.8	6.7	17.3	12.3	20.2	23.3

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001

[1] Based on the 1997 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

[2] Production Services includes utilities, wholesale trade, transportation and warehousing, information and cultural industries, finance and insurance, real estate and rental and leasing, professional, scientific and technical services, management of companies and enterprises, administrative and support, waste management and remediation services.

[3] Consumer Services includes retail trade, arts, entertainment and recreation, and accommodation and food services, and other services.

[4] Government-Provided Services includes educational services, health care and social assistance and public administration.

Table 5: In Rural Newfoundland and Labrador, Service Industry Employment Increased Between 1991 and 1996, While Employment in Manufacturing Declined

Percent Employed in Each Industry Sector (SIC)[1], 1996 and 1991

Geographic Zone	Primary Industries				Secondary Industries				Service Industries					
	Agric., Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting		Mining & Oil & Gas Extraction		Construction		Manufacturing		Production Services[2]		Consumer Services[3]		Government-Provided Services[4]	
	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	6.5	6.6	2.0	1.7	7.5	7.0	9.6	13.5	17.4	16.7	27.0	25.0	29.9	29.4
Urban Total	1.7	1.8	2.5	2.5	5.6	5.9	6.1	7.0	21.2	21.2	28.3	26.9	34.6	34.6
Rural/Small Town Total	11.2	10.8	1.6	1.0	9.4	8.0	13.2	19.6	13.6	12.4	25.7	23.5	25.3	24.7
Strong MIZ	7.2	8.4	1.4	0.8	16.7	10.8	10.0	12.9	15.5	17.4	21.9	21.1	27.1	28.5
Moderate MIZ	12.0	10.9	1.5	0.9	11.1	10.2	13.5	19.6	14.3	12.3	24.6	23.9	22.9	22.2
Weak MIZ	9.7	9.3	1.2	1.0	7.0	5.9	13.1	19.0	12.8	12.3	28.0	24.6	28.3	27.8
No MIZ	18.2	18.8	3.3	2.0	6.5	5.2	15.4	27.3	12.4	9.4	22.9	18.2	21.4	19.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1996 and 1991

[1] Based on the 1980 Standard Industry Classification (SIC) system.

[2] Production Services includes communication and other utilities, wholesale trade, transportation and storage, finance and insurance, real estate operator and insurance agent, and business services.

[3] Consumer Services includes retail trade, accommodation, food and beverage, and other services.

[4] Government-Provided Services includes educational services, health and social assistance, and government service.

Table 4 also reveals that service jobs are more prevalent in urban regions, accounting for 85.0% of urban jobs compared to just 63.4% of jobs in rural and small town zones in 2001. Employment in the typically more lucrative production services (e.g., information and cultural services, wholesale trade, finance and insurance) is especially lower in rural than in urban regions (14.9% compared to 25.4%), with *No MIZ* residents the least likely in the province to work in this industry in 2001 (12.3%). The urban/rural difference in employment in consumer services (e.g., retail trade, accommodation, food services) is smaller (27.3% compared to 24.3%), with *No MIZ* residents the least likely to be employed in this industry as well (20.2%). Finally, urbanites surpassed rural residents in employment in government-provided services (e.g., educational, health care and social assistance, and public administration) in 2001 (32.3% compared to 24.1%). *Moderate* and *No MIZ* residents were the least likely in Newfoundland and Labrador to work in government-provided services.

The overall industry patterns across geographic zones observed in Table 4 are very similar to those of 1991 and 1996, as shown in Table 5 (Appendix Table 11). For example, rural and small town residents were more likely than their urban counterparts to be employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting and in both secondary industries. The dominance of urban employment in the three service industries is also observed.

In terms of over-time change, employment in primary industries remained relatively stable between 1991 and 1996, as did employment in construction. Manufacturing, in contrast, declined throughout the province, with greater decreases occurring in rural (-6.4%) than in urban (-0.9%) regions of the province. *No MIZ* zones exhibited the largest five-year decline in manufacturing employment (from 27.3% in 1991 to 15.4% in 1996). The declining manufacturing base in *No MIZ* zones likely contributed to the large decrease in LFP rates and increase in unemployment rates in this zone of the province during the same period (Figures 10 and 11) Finally, while the proportion of the urban population working in service industries changed little between 1991 and 1996, the rural and small town population was more likely to be working in these industries in 1996 than in 1991, reflecting no doubt the decline in manufacturing employment.

B.1.3 Self-Employment

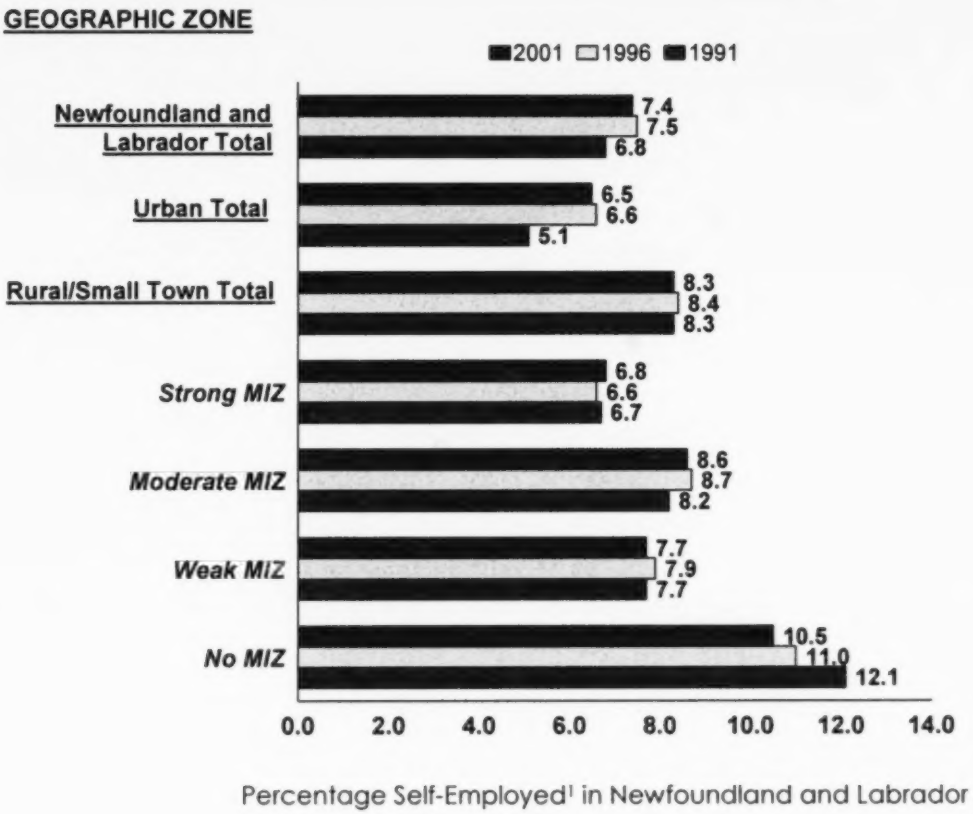
No MIZ zones have the highest proportion of self-employed individuals in the province.

Newfoundland and Labrador's labour force can also be analyzed by examining the proportion of self-employed individuals versus those who are considered employees. Self-employment includes operating a business or professional practice, doing freelance or contract work, and farming, fishing and trapping. It also includes operating a direct distributorship selling and distributing goods such as cosmetics (Statistics Canada, 1999a).

In 2001, 7.4% of the province's labour force was self-employed as opposed to working as an employee (Figure 12 and Appendix Table 12). Rural and small town citizens were slightly more likely than urbanites to be self-employed (8.3% compared to 6.5%). With one-in-ten workers considered self-employed in 2001, *No MIZ* zones had the highest proportion of self-employed individuals in the province. This high proportion likely reflects the greater representation of *No MIZ* workers in such primary industries as fishing (Table 4).

Urban self-employment increased between 1991 and 1996 and stabilized in the latter half of the decade, while rural self-employment, as a whole, remained relatively stable throughout the 1990s. A smaller proportion of the *No MIZ* population, however, was self-employed in 2001 than in 1991 (-1.6%).

Figure 12: Self-Employment is More Prevalent in Rural Newfoundland and Labrador



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Self-employment is expressed as a ratio to the total labour force 15 years of age and over. Self-employment includes operating a business or professional practice, doing freelance or contract work, and farming, fishing and trapping. It also includes operating a direct distributorship selling and distributing goods such as cosmetics (Statistics Canada, 1999a).

B.2 INCOME

Compared to the urban population, the rural population in Newfoundland and Labrador had lower median incomes, higher rates of low-income, and were much more likely to depend upon government sources of income.

B.2.1 Median Personal Income

Mean income values are commonly used as an estimate of the economic well-being of the inhabitants of a given region. Median personal income is used in this report since it is a more appropriate measure when making comparisons across time.[8] Unlike mean income values, median measures are not as unduly influenced by extreme values, whether high or low. The 1991 and 1996 annual income figures presented in Figure 9 are adjusted to 2000 real dollars.

In 2001, the median income in Newfoundland and Labrador was $16,050. A higher median income is observed for urban centres than for rural and small town zones in this census year ($17,360 compared to $14,505). Of the rural zones, *Strong* and *Moderate MIZ* had the highest median incomes (of $15,044 and $15,202, respectively), and *Weak MIZ* and *No MIZ* zones the lowest (of $13,845 and $14,323, respectively). Of the three census years, however, 2001 was the only year in which *Weak MIZ* zones exhibited the lowest median income. In both 1996 and 1991 these zones had among the highest median incomes in rural Newfoundland and Labrador.

While several indicators suggest improving economic conditions in Newfoundland and Labrador after 1996, median income values contradict this trend by declining in all but *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones in each consecutive inter-census period. Compared to the rural and small town total, the urban median income declined to a greater extent, falling by 22.1% between 1991 and 2001 (compared to a decrease of 15.4% in the rural median income). Despite increasing after 1996, median incomes in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones were also lower in 2001 than in 1991. *No MIZ* zones, in fact, exhibited the largest ten-year decrease in median income in the province (28.7%).[9]

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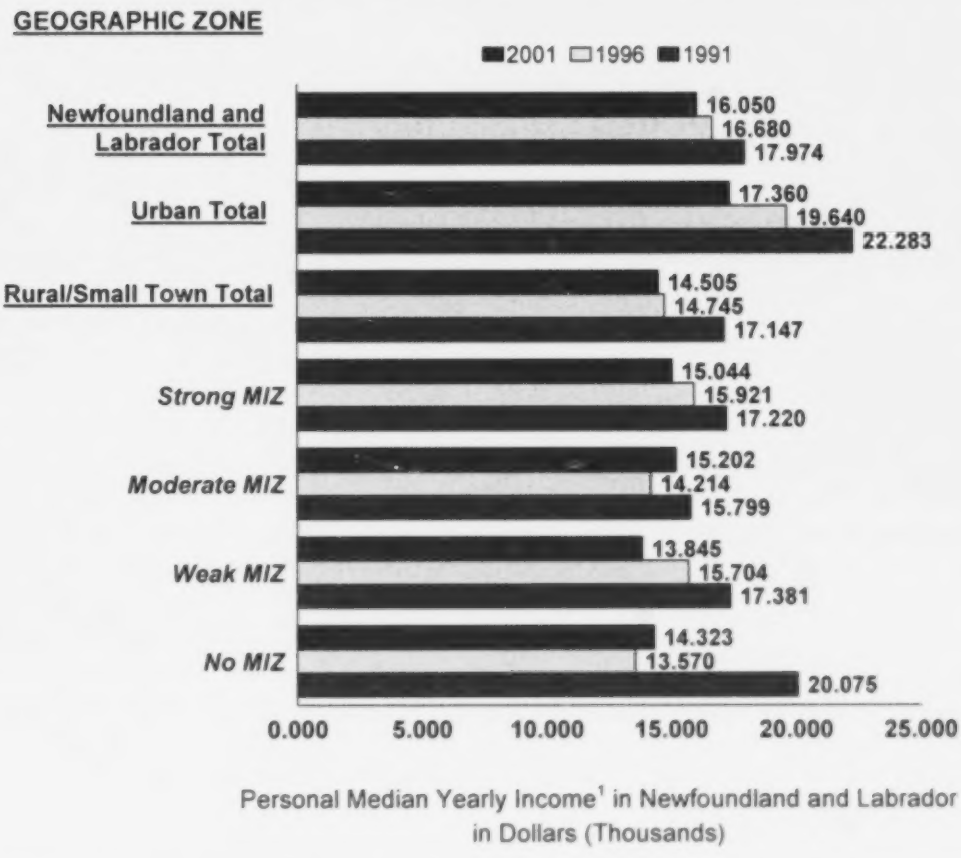
[8] Mean is also commonly known as the average. Median is equivalent to the 50th percentile.

[9] The unusually high 1991 median income in *No MIZ* zones suggests that this figure should be interpreted with caution since it is likely affected by the practice of area suppression, which is the practice of deleting all characteristic data for CSDs with total populations of less than 40 (see Data Limitations in Methods Section).

Figure 13: Median Incomes Declined Between 1991 and 2001 in all Geographic Zones of the Province



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Median income is yearly income for the population aged 15 years and over and is reported in 2000 real dollars.

B.2.2 Incidence of Low Income

Another measure used to illustrate the relative economic well-being of residents within each geographic zone of the province is the share of the population with low incomes (as measured by the percent of the population living in households with incomes below the low-income cut-off (LICO)). This indicator refers to the proportion of individuals with incomes below the cost of basic necessities including food, shelter, and clothing. Along with family size, level of urbanization is factored into the estimated costs of necessities for each census individual, thereby determining the low-income cut-off value. The

indicator assumes, quite rightly, that a higher cost of living amount coincides with a higher level of integration with urban centres.[10]

Figure 14 reveals that the incidence of low income is higher in rural and small town zones than in urban centres (see also Appendix Table 13). In 2001, 20.5% of the rural population was considered low-income, compared 17.2% of urban dwellers. Considerable variation is observed within rural Newfoundland and Labrador, with roughly the same percentage of *Strong MIZ* residents as urbanites considered low-income in 2001, *No MIZ* residents slightly more likely (18.2%), and those residing in *Moderate* and *Weak MIZ* zones the most likely in the province to be considered low-income (21.3% and 20.4%, respectively).

Unlike the median income data, the data in Figure 14 illustrate the strengthening of the Newfoundland and Labrador economy in the late 1990s, with the proportion of low-income individuals decreasing in all zones of the province after 1996. A greater decrease, however, occurred in rural zones than in urban centres (of 2.9 percentage points compared to 1.6 percentage points). But, as with much of the economic data, we also observe larger proportions of low-income individuals in 2001 than in 1991 in every geographic zone, despite the post-1996 improvement. Furthermore, while the post-1996 decline in low-income was more substantial in rural than in urban regions, the overall 1991 to 2001 increase in low-income was greater in rural zones than in urban centres (2.7% compared to 1.9%). *No MIZ* zones, for example, had the largest 1996-2001 drop in incidence of low-income (4.2 percentage points), but also had the largest ten-year increase (of 4.3 percentage points).

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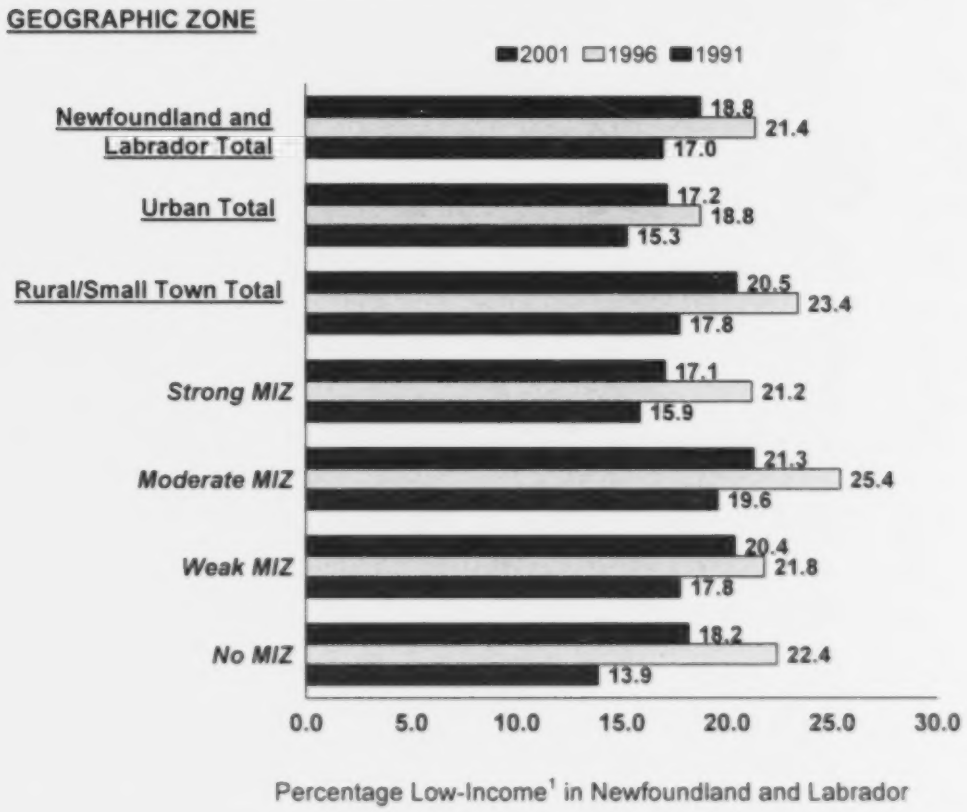
[10] A few methodological considerations should be noted with the use of LICOs. First, different levels of the LICO are calculated for each family size class and for each urbanization class. The urbanization classes used for the LICO calculation are different than the rural and urban categories used in this report. For our tabulations, a household is assigned to be below LICO based on the original urbanization coding. We then retabulated the data according to our own rural-urban categories. In addition to these concerns, it should be noted that LICOs are, by Statistics Canada's admission, not a measure of poverty. There is also considerable debate about whether LICO's are a valid measurement of low income (see, for example, Webber (1998)).

Figure 14: *Moderate MIZ* Zones Consistently Had the Highest Incidence of Low-Income in the Province



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] The incidence of low-income is calculated as the number of individuals living in a household with an income below the low-income cut-off (LICO), divided by the total number of individuals. The LICO is a level of income where households are judged to be in straitened circumstances, on the basis of the income required to provide food, clothing and shelter.

B.2.3 Share of Total Income From Social Transfer Income

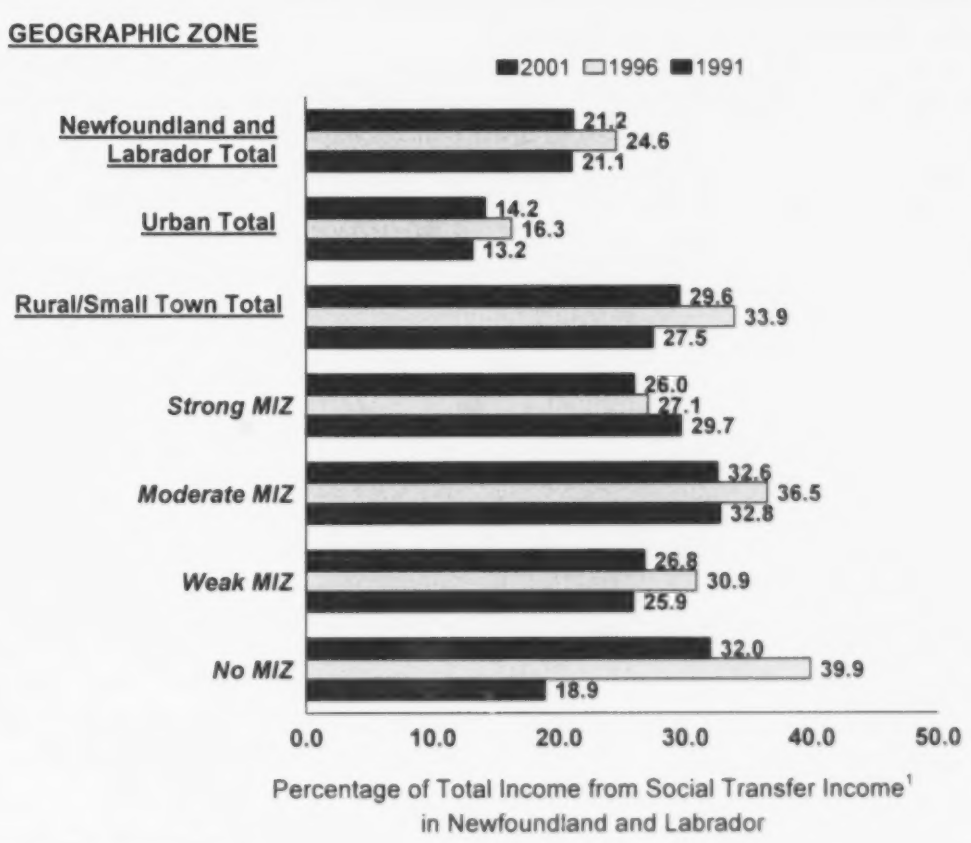
We can also gain an indication of the relative economic conditions for each geographic zone of Newfoundland and Labrador by examining source of income. Larger proportions of individuals relying upon social transfer payments, as opposed to employment income or personal investments, in a region, suggest greater economic dependency for that particular region.

Figure 15 presents the percentage of total income derived from social transfer payments for each geographic zone and for 2001, 1996, and 1991, and reveals that rural and small town residents garnered a much larger proportion of their income from government sources than did urban citizens in all three census years. Residents of *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones were the most likely to rely upon this form of income (with 32.6% and 32.0% of total income comprised of social transfer income in 2001, respectively).

Social transfer income is another indicator for which we observe the strengthening of the economy after 1996. Reliance on this form of income increased in all but *Strong MIZ* zones of the province between 1991 and 1996, and declined in every zone in the subsequent five-year period. In terms of reliance on social transfer payments, *Strong MIZ* zones moved from the second lowest ranking in 1991 to the most advantaged position in 2001. As is the case for median income and low-income, furthermore, the greatest over-time deterioration in economic conditions occurred in *No MIZ* zones, where reliance on social transfer income increased by 13.1 percentage points between 1991 and 2001.

These over-time changes could be due to increasing or decreasing unemployment, Old Age Security, Canadian Pension Plan payments, or child tax credits. *Strong MIZ* zones, for instance, were the only zones to exhibit declining social transfer income in each inter-census period, and also had the greatest decrease in unemployment rates in the province between 1991 and 2001 (Figure 11) and the largest decrease in the proportional child population (Table 2).

Figure 15: *Moderate MIZ* Zones were Consistently the Most Likely to Rely on Social Transfer Income



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Social transfer income refers to all government transfer payments to individuals including Old Age Security, Canadian/Quebec Pension Plans, Employment Insurance and Child Tax Credits and is expressed as a ratio of the amount of government transfer payments to the total average income among the population 15 years and older.

SUMMARY

All economic indicators presented in this section reveal that residents of rural Newfoundland and Labrador experience less favorable economic conditions compared to their urban counterparts. For example, rural zones had lower LFP and higher unemployment rates, lower median incomes and were less likely to be working in service industries compared to urban dwellers. At the same time, rural zones were just as likely, on most indicators, to exhibit more robust economic conditions in the late 1990s compared to the first portion of the decade. Between 1996 and 2001, labour

force participation rates increased and unemployment rates declined, as did the proportion of residents considered low-income and the proportion of income derived from social transfer income throughout rural and urban Newfoundland and Labrador. And while economic conditions in rural zones in 2001 were still less favorable than in 1991, this was also the case in the province's urban centres.

Rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador is not homogeneous, as a number of economic indicators have revealed. With the exception of the unusually low median incomes in *Weak MIZ* zones in 2001, *Strong* and *Weak MIZ* zones often exhibited the strongest economic characteristics, with the lowest of the rural unemployment rates, the highest proportional representation in the service industries, and the smallest proportions of social transfer income in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. *Moderate MIZ* zones, in contrast, were observed to fare the poorest on several indicators, with the lowest LFP rate, the highest incidence of low-income and the greatest reliance on social transfer income of all rural zones. *No MIZ* zones also increasingly displayed signs of economic disadvantage with the highest unemployment rates, the second lowest median incomes, and the second highest rate of reliance on social transfer income.

But the economic ranking of MIZ zones in 2001 departs somewhat from that of 1991. Though *Moderate MIZ* zones most consistently display a position of disadvantage independent of census year, significant over-time changes in economic ranking of *Strong* and *No MIZ* zones are observed. On several indictors, *No MIZ* zones exhibited some of the most positive economic circumstances in 1991, but due to larger-than-average deteriorating conditions between 1991 and 1996, the conditions in these zones shifted to one of relative disadvantage by 2001. The most dramatic shock to the economy was undoubtedly the cod fisheries closure in 1992. Economic conditions in *Strong MIZ* zones, in contrast, improved more consistently over time such that by 2001, it ranked as the most advantaged of rural zones. These findings suggest that the economic conditions in the perennially disadvantaged *Moderate MIZ* zones and the increasingly disadvantaged *No MIZ* zones should continue to be monitored in the future.

Overall, despite improvements over time, it remains the case that residents of Newfoundland and Labrador's rural and small town zones are, as a whole, less economically advantaged than their urban counterparts. The dominant story of the economic indicators, however, is that the intra-rural disparities and over-time shifts in rural disparities are as important as the overall differences between urban and rural zones of Newfoundland and Labrador.

C. Education Indicators

KEY FINDINGS

C.1 Educational Attainment

- Despite modest over-time improvements, residents of Newfoundland and Labrador's rural zones continued in 2001 to have lower levels of educational attainment than individuals in urban centres.
- The lowest levels of educational attainment are observed in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones where 52.8% and 53.3%, respectively, of the population of at least 20 years of age had not completed high school as recently as 2001. Further, the *No MIZ* population experienced the smallest over-time increase in educational attainment.

C.2 Education Providers

- All rural zones have per capita education providers below that of urban centres. *Moderate MIZ* zones had the lowest number of education providers in the province in 2001 (14.7 per 1,000 population).
- With the exception of *No MIZ* zones, every geographic zone had significantly fewer education providers per capita in 2001 than in 1991.

Summary

The findings presented in this section suggest that the disparity between urban and rural citizens continues in terms of educational attainment and perhaps also for access to education. The lower levels of high school completion among the province's rural and small town residents is of concern, as it implies they will have more difficult labour market experiences, including perhaps unemployment and lower incomes. The trend of lower post-secondary educational attainment in *No MIZ* and *Moderate* MIZ zones implies a geographical and economic deterrent of access to institutions of higher learning. Finally, the lower number of per capita education providers in rural zones of the province is also noteworthy, as it may influence the education provided in these zones.

C.1 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Compared to urban centres, rural zones have lower levels of high school completion and lower proportions of residents with a post-secondary education.

It is generally accepted that higher educational attainment is associated with higher earnings and an increased level of well-being. As was the case for industry employment, a change to the census in 2001 precludes the ability to directly compare level of education between 2001 and the two earlier census periods.[11] Table 6 presents the highest level of educational attainment achieved by all geographic zones of the province for 2001 and Table 7 presents the same indicator for 1996 and 1991 (see also Appendix Tables 14 and 15).

Beginning with Table 6, in 2001, 39.6% of the provincial adult population had less than a high school education. A much greater proportion of rural and small town residents than urbanites had not attained a high school education (50.1% compared to 27.6%), with *Moderate* and *No MIZ* residents the most highly represented at this lowest level of educational attainment (52.8% and 53.3%, respectively). On average, rural residents were slightly less likely to have a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment in 2001 (8.9% compared to 9.3% of urban residents).

The urban population was more highly represented than the rural population in each of the three categories of post-secondary education. Just 8.0% of rural residents had attained some post-secondary education in 2001, compared to 13.3% of urbanites. Urbanites were more likely to have a certificate or diploma from a college or technical institute (33.9% compared to 27.2% of rural residents), and were nearly three times more likely to have a university degree (15.9% compared to 5.8%). Within rural zones, a pattern of greater educational attainment in *Strong* and *Weak MIZ* than in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones is observed, with the former two zones more highly represented in each of the three post-secondary categories in 2001.

[11] The data provided for 1991 and 1996 are for individuals aged 15 and over, while the 2001 census data are provided for those 20 years of age and over.

Table 6: Levels of Educational Attainment are Lowest in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* Zones of the Province

Educational Attainment[1] Percent Distribution, 2001

Geographic Zone	Total	Less Than High School	High School Diploma	Some Post-Secondary	Post-Secondary Cert./Dip.	University Degree
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	100.0	39.6	9.1	10.5	30.4	10.5
Urban Total	100.0	27.6	9.3	13.3	33.9	15.9
Rural/Small Town Total	100.0	50.1	8.9	8.0	27.2	5.8
Strong MIZ	100.0	44.7	7.6	9.1	31.8	6.8
Moderate MIZ	100.0	52.8	9.4	7.8	25.2	4.9
Weak MIZ	100.0	47.0	8.0	8.3	29.7	6.9
No MIZ	100.0	53.3	11.1	7.0	23.6	4.9

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001

[1] 2001 educational attainment data are provided for the population 20 years of age and over.

Table 7 presents 1996 and 1991 census data on educational attainment and depicts similar geographic zone trends that were observed in 2001: rural residents were more likely than urban residents to have less than a high school education, and *Moderate* and *No MIZ* residents were the most highly represented in this lowest of educational attainment categories. A greater percentage of urban than rural residents in each census year had attended a post-secondary institution and within rural Newfoundland and Labrador, those living in *Strong* and *Weak MIZ* zones had the highest levels of education, while *Moderate* and *No MIZ* residents had the lowest.

Table 7 illustrates increases in educational attainment in all geographic zones of the province, but to varying degrees. Whereas 5.4% more urban individuals had attained a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree in 1996 than in 1991, the increase among the rural population was only by 4.7%. Within rural Newfoundland and Labrador, post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree earners increased by between 5% to 6% in all but *No MIZ* zones, in which only 0.5% more of the population had reached these upper levels of educational attainment in 1996 than in 1991.

Table 7: Educational Attainment Increased in All Geographic Zones Between 1991 and 1996

Educational Attainment[1] Percent Distribution, 1996 and 1991

Geographic Zone	Less Than High School		High School Diploma		Some Post-Secondary		Post-Secondary Cert./Dip.		University Degree	
	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	45.4	49.2	9.8	11.7	9.2	9.1	27.4	23.4	8.1	6.6
Urban Total	34.5	38.0	10.3	11.9	11.6	11.9	31.2	27.9	12.4	10.3
Rural/Small Town Total	54.1	56.9	9.5	11.6	7.4	7.2	24.3	20.4	4.7	3.9
Strong MIZ	50.2	52.9	9.9	12.5	7.7	7.6	27.2	22.8	4.8	4.2
Moderate MIZ	55.8	59.3	9.9	11.6	7.2	6.7	23.1	19.1	4.0	3.3
Weak MIZ	51.9	55.4	9.0	11.4	7.5	7.4	25.9	21.2	5.7	4.7
No MIZ	58.5	55.6	9.3	12.2	7.1	7.7	21.2	20.8	3.8	3.7

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1996 and 1991

[1] 1996 and 1991 educational attainment data are provided for the population 15 years of age and over.

Overall, these findings indicate that residents of rural Newfoundland and Labrador are not only more educationally disadvantaged than their urban counterparts, but that the disparity between the two major regions is increasing. As well, the educational disparity between *No MIZ* zones and the other three rural zones increased over time.

C.2 EDUCATION PROVIDERS

Urban centres had a higher number of education providers per capita than did rural zones in all three census years.

There are many factors that might contribute to the quality of education. One practice that permits easily quantifiable comparisons is to examine the number of education providers in the region. This is calculated by determining the number of people who are employed as teachers or professors per 1,000 people.[12] These data are presented in Figure 16 by geographic zone and for 2001, 1996, and 1991(see also Appendix Table 16).

The number of education providers per capita was higher in urban centres than in rural and small town zones in each census year. In 2001 there were 22.8 education providers per 1,000 population in Newfoundland and Labrador's urban centres, compared to 17.9 per 1,000 in the province's rural zones. Of the rural zones, *Weak MIZ* had the highest (22.0) and *Moderate MIZ* zones the lowest (14.7) number of education providers per 1,000 residents.

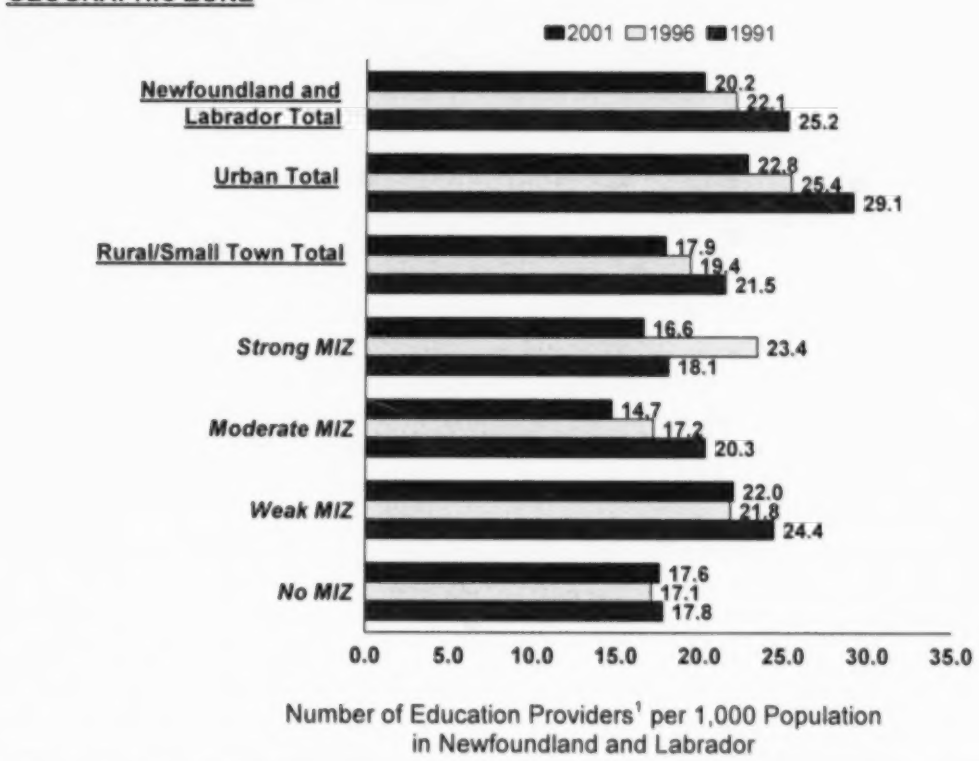
All geographic zones had fewer education providers per capita in 1996 than in 1991, with the exception of *Strong MIZ*, where the number increased by 5.3 providers per 1,000. *Strong MIZ* zones lost a substantial number of providers per capita, however, in the subsequent five-year period (6.8 per 1,000). Urban and *Moderate MIZ* zones also experienced a decline in education providers per capita after 1996, while the number remained virtually unchanged in *Weak* and *No MIZ* zones of Newfoundland and Labrador. Despite these different patterns of change, all of the geographic zones had fewer education providers per capita in 2001 than in 1991. Within rural zones of the province, *Moderate MIZ* zones lost the greatest number of education providers per 1,000 population during the 10-year period (of 5.6 compared to the total rural loss of 3.5 education providers per 1,000 residents).

Part of the explanation for the higher number of per capita education providers in urban than in rural zones likely lies in the propensity for Newfoundland and Labrador's post-secondary institutions to be located in urban rather than rural regions of the

[12] It should be understood that education providers are designated to the geographic area where they reside and not where they teach. As such, the per capita education providers in each zone may not accurately represent the number of educators serving the population in the zones.

province. Insofar as the post-secondary system continues to expand in urban centres, so too will the disparity between the number of professors serving urban as opposed to rural citizens. But since educators are predominantly primary and secondary school teachers, the urban/rural difference is not entirely explained by geography, but also must be a function of true educational disparity. While all geographic zones experienced a reduction in the proportion of children, the fact remains that urban and rural zones of the province have similar proportions of children (Table 1), suggesting that the teacher component of the education provider indicator in rural zones should be higher than it is.

Figure 16: The Number of Education Providers Per Capita is Higher in Urban than in Rural Zones of the Province



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] The number of individuals working in Statistics Canada's occupational classification category of 'teachers or professors' per 1,000 people.

SUMMARY

The indicators presented in this section reveal a gap in educational attainment and in the number of per capita education providers between Newfoundland and Labrador's urban centres and rural and small town zones. While all zones exhibited some improvement in educational attainment over time, this improvement was more evident in the province's urban centres than in its rural zones. And despite reductions in each census year, urban centres continued, as recently as 2001, to have a substantially higher number of education providers per capita than did rural and small town zones. The improvements observed within some rural zones, therefore, have not overcome the urban/rural disparity in terms of levels of educational attainment and perhaps also for access to education.

This disparity, moreover, explains some of the urban/rural differences found for the economic and labour market indicators presented in Section B. First, the lower levels of high school completion among the rural population of Newfoundland and Labrador implies more difficult labour market experiences such as unemployment, long work hours and, of course, lower incomes. This relationship is borne out with these data, but especially for *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones where, in 2001, more than half of the population have not completed high school. *Moderate MIZ* zones have the lowest labour force participation rates and the highest proportion of low-income individuals in the province, and together with *No MIZ* zones, have the highest unemployment rates in Newfoundland and Labrador. The economic benefits of providing programs that encourage school attendance and completion such as mentoring, tutoring, peer support, and parental involvement might be further examined.

Second, lower levels of post-secondary educational attainment in rural zones of the province implies a geographical and economic deterrent of access to institutions of higher learning. The educational attainment data presented in this report suggest that for rural residents, colleges and technical institutes are more easily accessible than are universities. Previous studies have found that individuals living further away from a university are more likely to attend a non-university post-secondary institution, if they choose to continue their education (Frenette, 2002). It is, therefore, possible that the distance from universities (most of which are housed in urban centres) is a deterrent to attending, whereas it may not have such an influence on attending other educational institutions. Other factors such as family income also influence post-secondary choices. The lower incomes in rural Newfoundland and Labrador likely impose a barrier to attending university, perhaps compelling individuals to choose the typically less expensive route of enrolling in college or technical institutes. The need for further research that examines the implications of increasing access among rural residents to post-secondary institutions, and especially universities, is implied by these findings. Programs aimed at distance-learning or at encouraging further education, through scholarships, for example, may be of value to residents of rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador.

Third, the lower number of education providers per capita in rural zones of the province should be more fully explored, since the implications for educational quality are not clear. Classroom sizes may, for example, be larger on average in rural zones of the province, since they have the same proportions of children as urban centres, but a lower per capita number of education providers.

D. Social Indicators

KEY FINDINGS

D.1 Family Structure (Lone-Parent Families)

- In 2001, lone-parent families were more prevalent in urban than in rural Newfoundland and Labrador (16.8% compared to 13.4%). Within rural zones, *Strong* and *Weak MIZ* zones had the highest incidence of this type of family structure in 2001 (15.1% and 14.0%, respectively).

D.2 Housing

- Little variation is observed in the percentage of houses constructed in each geographic zone since 1986. Still, urbanites and residents of *Strong MIZ* zones were slightly more likely to be residing in newer housing, with 25.7% and 24.0% of their housing constructed since 1986, respectively.

- With an average value of $105,300, urban housing was much more costly than rural housing (which averaged $54,500) in 2001. *No MIZ* housing values were the lowest in the province in 2001 ($45,000).

- Despite the much higher housing values in urban than in rural zones, the rural population was only slightly more able to afford them (12.4% of rural owner households spending more than 30% of income on housing compared to 13.3% of urban owner households). With the lowest housing values, housing in *No MIZ* zones was found to be the most affordable in the province (11.1%), but again, only slightly more so than in *Strong MIZ* zones (13.4%) where housing values were much higher.

- Reflecting declining incomes, the percentage of households spending significant portions of their income on shelter increased throughout the province between 1991 and 2001, with rural zones incurring larger increases than urban zones (6.9 compared to 4.9 percentage points).

Summary

The social indicators presented in this section of the report portray a slightly different profile of the geographic zones than has been the case thus far. With lower proportions of lone-parents and more affordable housing, rural and small town zones exhibit conditions of greater social advantage than do their urban counterparts. Nonetheless, housing in rural zones is not as affordable as housing values would suggest. Hence, housing indicators in rural Newfoundland and Labrador are strongly influenced by incomes.

D.1 FAMILY STRUCTURE (LONE-PARENT FAMILIES)

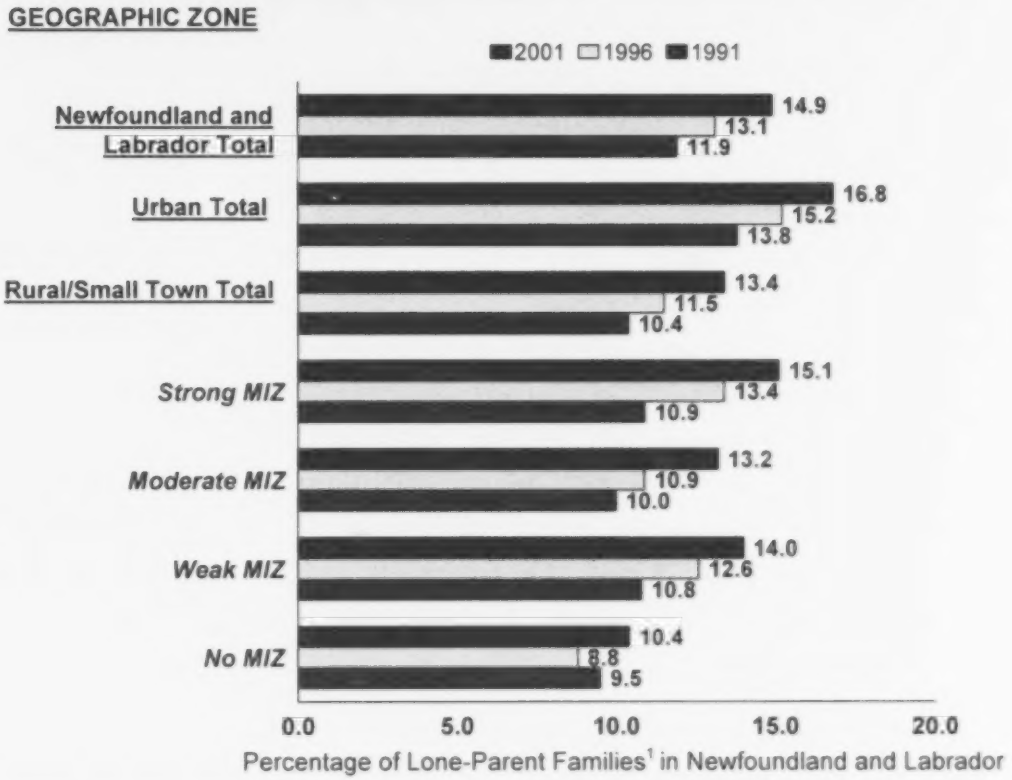
Compared to urban regions, a smaller proportion of rural and small town families are lone-parent.

In Canada, as in many countries, family structures have been changing. The frequency of divorce has risen and common law relationships have become increasingly popular (Statistics Canada, 2002b). Studies have shown that the growth in lone-parent families has been one of Canada's most significant social trends (Ross et al., 1998). Newfoundland and Labrador is no exception to this rising trend, though in 2001 this province had a smaller proportion of lone-parents compared to the nation (14.9% - compared to 15.7% of Canadian families - Figure 17).

Figure 17 (Appendix Table 17) reveals that lone-parents are slightly more prevalent in urban than in rural Newfoundland and Labrador (16.8% compared to 13.4%, respectively). A lower percentage, moreover, is observed in each of the four rural zones, with the highest rural rate observed in *Strong MIZ* zones (15.1%) and the lowest in *No MIZ* (10.4%) zones in 2001.

Over-time increases in lone-parent families are apparent in all geographic zones. With the exception of *No MIZ* zones, increases occurred in each inter-census period and ranged from a low of 3.0% in urban and total rural zones to 4.2% in *Strong MIZ* zones over the ten-year period. *No MIZ* zones exhibited a lower percentage increase (of just 0.9%) between 1991 and 2001, due to a slight decline in lone-parents in the first half of the decade. *No MIZ* zones stand out, then, as having both the lowest percentage of lone-parents in the province in each census year, and the smallest percentage increase in this family-type over time.

Figure 17: Lone-Parent Families are the Least Prevalent in *No MIZ* Zones of Newfoundland and Labrador



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] A change to the measurement of lone-parent families in 2001 marginally inflates the percentage in this year.

D.2 HOUSING

Compared to urban housing, rural housing is slightly older, less expensive and, therefore, much more affordable.

D.2.1 Recent Housing Construction

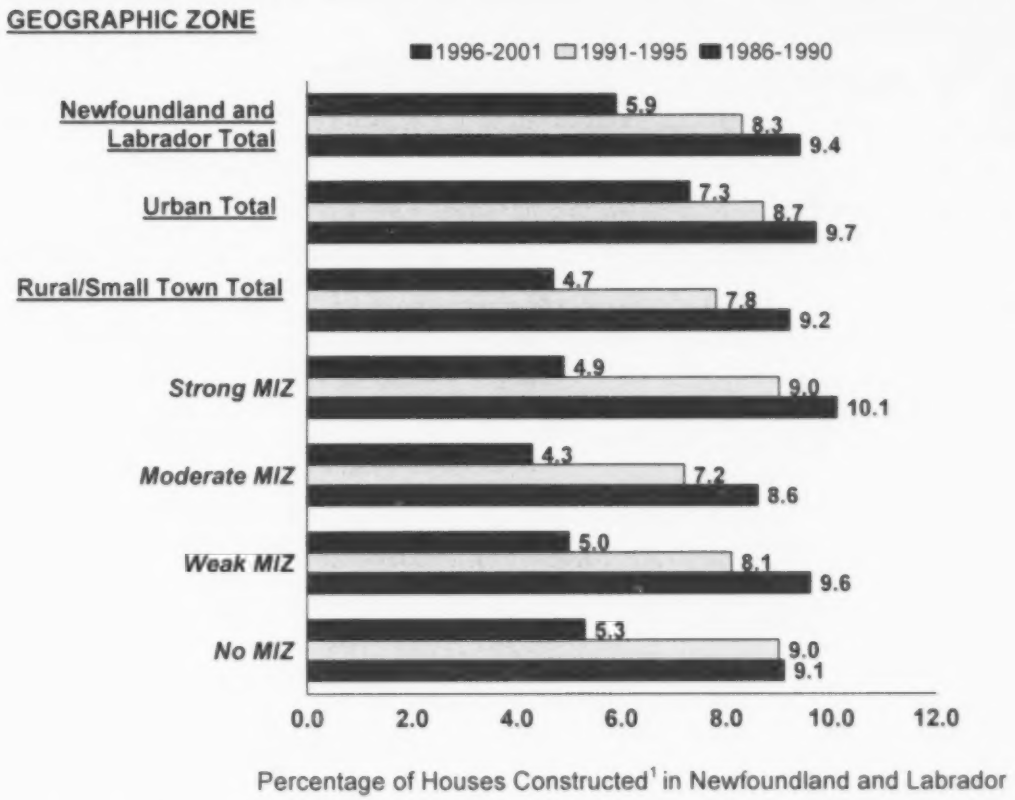
The period of housing construction provides an indication of economic and population growth in the various geographic zones of Newfoundland and Labrador. The greater the percentage of houses constructed more recently in a region, the greater the likelihood that communities in that region have experienced economic and population growth. Figure 18 presents the percentage of houses constructed between 1996 and

2001, 1991 and 1995, and 1986 and 1990 for each geographic zone (see also Appendix Table 18).

The percentage of dwellings constructed between 1986 and 2001 was slightly higher in urban centres than in rural zones (25.7% compared to 21.7%). Though the differences are slight, *Strong MIZ* residents were the most likely in rural Newfoundland and Labrador to reside in newly constructed housing in 2001, with 24.0% of housing constructed since 1986 (compared to 20.1%, 22.7%, and 23.4% of housing in *Moderate*, *Weak* and *No MIZ* zones, respectively). Figure 18 also reveals that a greater proportion of urban than rural housing was constructed in the most recent inter-census period (7.3% compared to 4.7%, respectively), and that *No MIZ* residents were the most likely of rural dwellers to be residing in housing constructed since 1996 (5.3%).

The data presented in Figure 18 generally correspond with the various patterns of population change and economic strength observed among geographic zones of the province. For example, the higher incidence of new-housing construction in urban than in rural zones corresponds with the stronger economic profile and smaller population declines in urban than in rural zones of Newfoundland and Labrador. Nor is it surprising that *Strong MIZ* residents were the most likely of rural dwellers to be residing in housing constructed since 1986, given the more favorable *Strong MIZ* economy. The housing situation in *No MIZ* zones presents a slight contradiction to population trends, however, given that these zones underwent the largest population decline in the province between 1991 and 2001 (Figure 3). At the same time, the improvement in the *No MIZ* economic profile since 1996 may help explain the slightly higher proportion of newly-constructed housing in these zones.

Figure 18: Urbanites are More Likely than Rural Residents to Reside in Newly-Constructed Housing



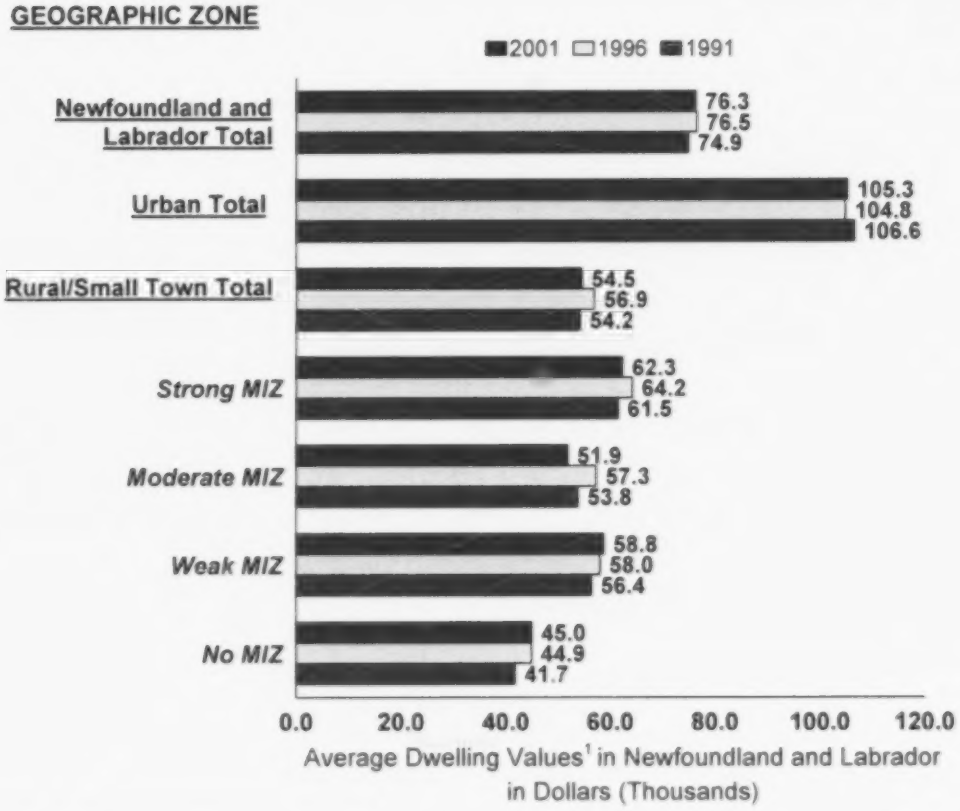
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991
[1] Expressed as a percentage of the total number of occupied private dwellings.

D.2.2 Average Dwelling (Housing) Values

Dwelling cost is a relevant indicator of prosperity and may illustrate the ability of a family or individual to purchase 'big-ticket' items.

As indicated in Figure 19, the average dwelling value in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2001 was $76,300. Urban housing values were much higher than the rural average ($105,300 compared to $54,500, for a difference of $50,800 in 2001). Of the rural and small town zones, *Strong MIZ* had the highest housing values (averaging $62,300), and *No MIZ* had the lowest (averaging $45,000).

Figure 19: Dwelling (Housing) Values are Highest in Urban Centres and Lowest in *No MIZ* Zones



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Average dwelling (housing) values are for owner-occupied non-farm, non-reserve dwellings and are reported in 2001 real dollars.

Figure 19 reveals little over-time change in dwelling (housing) values. Still, urban and *Moderate MIZ* housing values were slightly lower, *Weak* and *No MIZ* housing values were slightly higher, and *Strong MIZ* housing values were about the same in 2001 as they were in 1991. Perhaps the most notable observation to be made from Figure 19 is that rural housing values did not decline substantially, despite the significant population losses occurring during the same period (Figure 3).

D.2.3 Dwelling (Housing) Affordability

The proportion of household owners spending greater than 30% of their income on shelter costs is generally accepted to be an indicator of housing affordability. Figure 20 highlights the proportion of household owners in each geographic zone spending more than 30% of their income on shelter costs (see also Appendix Table 19).

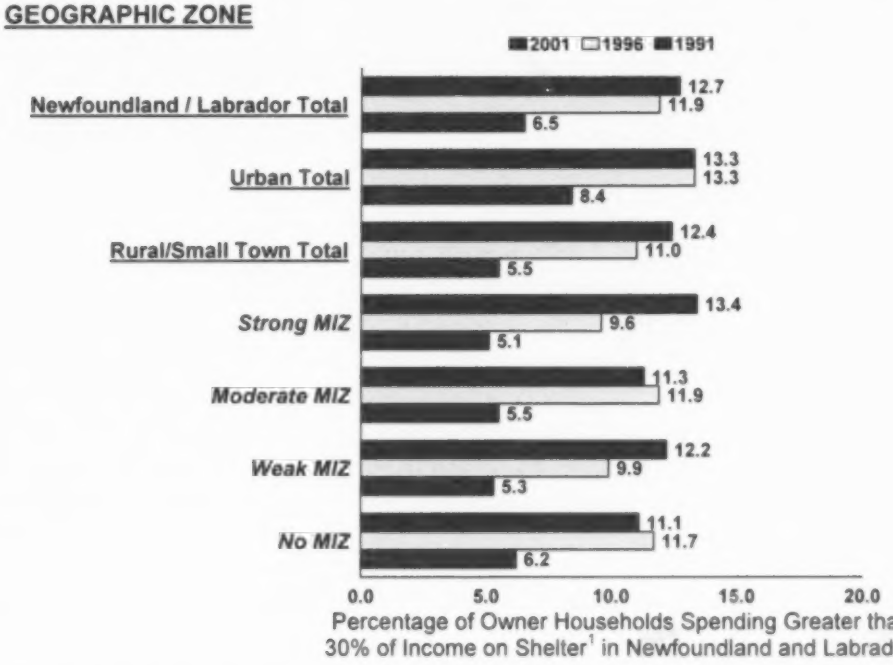
In 2001, 12.7% of household owners in Newfoundland and Labrador exceeded the 30% spending cutoff, with urbanites being slightly more likely than their rural counterparts to spend this amount on housing (13.3% compared to 12.4%). This finding is not surprising, given than urban areas have the newest and the most expensive housing in the province in 2001, but only a marginally higher median income than the rural and small town total (Figure 13).

Little variation in dwelling affordability is observed within rural and small town zones of the province. Still, *Strong MIZ* residents were the least able to afford their housing in 2001, with 13.4% spending greater than 30% of their income on shelter. With the lowest housing values, the populations in *No MIZ* and *Moderate MIZ* zones were the least likely to exceed the 30% spending limit on housing-related costs (11.1% and 11.3%).

By virtue of the much lower housing values in rural zones of the province, rural residents should pay, on average, much lower shelter costs than urban residents. But since their houses are only slightly more affordable than those within urban areas, the somewhat higher incomes in urban zones offset the rural advantage of lower-cost housing. A similar analysis can be applied to rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Despite the much lower housing values in *No MIZ* zones compared to those in *Strong MIZ* zones, *No MIZ* residents are only slightly more able to afford them.

Figure 20 also reveals that housing is becoming less affordable over time in Newfoundland and Labrador. Given that housing values remained relatively stable between 1991 and 2001, the higher proportion of residents unable to afford their shelter in 2001 than in 1991 likely resulted from the decrease in median incomes occurring throughout the province during this ten-year period (Figure 13). But, the 1991 to 2001 increase within rural zones of the province was slightly higher than that observed in urban zones (6.9 compared to an increase of 4.9 percentage points). As a result, the rural housing affordability advantage has reduced somewhat in the past 10 years. This conclusion applies most aptly to *Strong MIZ* zones which incurred the largest 10-year increase in the percentage of the population exceeding the 30% spending limit (of 8.3 percentage points).

Figure 20: A Greater Proportion of Urban than Rural Residents Spent Greater than 30% of their Income on Shelter in 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Refers to total household income which is spent on shelter costs for owners only (not renters) and refers to payments for electricity, fuel, water, municipal services, mortgage payments, property taxes and condominium fees.

SUMMARY

The social indicators presented in this section of the report portray a slightly different profile of the geographic zones than has been the case thus far: with lower proportions of lone-parents and more affordable housing, rural and small town zones exhibit conditions of greater social advantage than do their urban counterparts. Nonetheless, considerable variation within rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador exists and should also be considered when creating social policy.

Though the percentage of lone-parent families is higher in urban centres than in rural settings, all geographic zones of the provinces had higher rates of lone parents in 2001 than in 1991. Compared to urban centers, rural and small town zones may be less equipped to cope with the increasing proportions of lone parents. Research suggests that the growing trend of lone-parent families is of significance. For example, the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (Ross et al., 1998) found that when

measuring behavioural outcomes such as emotional disorders and aggression, children in lone-parent family situations fared relatively poorly, compared to the general population of children. In addition, the parents in these situations may experience further barriers when raising children, including an increased likelihood of poverty. This economic factor may be just as instrumental in the development patterns of children as is their family situation (Ross et al., 1998). Therefore, programs designed to mediate these effects are advisable. Possible examples include childcare support or subsidies, and financial support for low-income single parents. It is also essential that early intervention is emphasized, as poor performance in social and academic arenas is not likely to resolve itself with age, and may, in fact, worsen (Ross et al., 1998). Though these recommendations are relevant to urban Newfoundland and Labrador, they may be especially pertinent to rural and small town zones, since we see a combination of increasing proportions of lone-parent families and less favorable economic conditions.

The housing situation for rural Newfoundland and Labrador is more complex. While new-housing construction declined in all geographic zones since 1990 and housing values remained relatively stable, the percentage of owner households spending greater than 30% of their income on shelter increased in all zones. Since housing values were stable, the decrease in housing affordability is largely explained by declining incomes during this period. Though housing in *No Mo* zones was the most affordable, it is not as low as it should be given the much lower housing values in these zones. Hence, housing indicators in rural Newfoundland are strongly influenced by incomes.

E. Health Care Indicators

KEY FINDINGS

E.1 Health Care Providers

- Compared to urban centres, rural and small town zones had far fewer health care providers in 2001 (17.1 compared to 38.3 per 1,000 urban residents). *No MIZ* zones had the fewest health care providers in the province (11.9 per 1,000 in 2001).
- In 1996, the gap in the number of health care providers in urban versus rural zones was 18.5 providers per 1,000 residents. By 2001, this gap had increased to 21.2 providers per 1,000 residents.
- Rural zones are also disadvantaged with respect to their access to professional health care providers (e.g., physicians) and must rely more heavily upon the services offered by Registered Nurses (RNs) and other health care individuals.

Summary

The results suggest a health care disadvantage for rural and small town citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador (and particularly for *No MIZ* zones). The ability of rural residents to access health care is further compromised by the greater distance needed to travel to services and specialists that are typically located in urban zones. Access to adequate health care among the Aboriginal population residing in *Weak* and *No MIZ* zones of the province is of particular concern.

E.1 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Compared to urban centres, rural Newfoundland and Labrador has fewer health care providers per capita.

Access to health services is a concern to all residents of Newfoundland and Labrador and especially to those residing outside urban centres. One measure of access to health care is the number of health care providers per capita in a given region. In this instance, the number of health care providers per 1,000 people is used to illustrate accessibility to health services. [13]

As demonstrated in Figure 21, in 2001, the number of health care providers in urban centres was much higher than in rural Newfoundland and Labrador (38.3 compared to 17.1 per 1,000 residents; see also Appendix Table 20). Among rural zones, the highest per capita number of health care providers per 1,000 inhabitants was in *Strong* and *Weak MIZ* zones (20.6 and 21.6 per 1,000, respectively), while *No MIZ* zones had by far the fewest providers (11.9 per 1,000).

After declining in most geographic zones between 1991 and 1996, the number of health care providers per capita increased throughout the province in the latter half of the 1990s. Greater increases, however, are observed in urban centres, where the number of health care providers increased by 5.3 per 1,000 residents between 1996 and 2001, compared to an increase of just 2.6 providers per 1,000 rural residents during this same time period. This uneven redeployment of health care workers after 1996 resulted in a broadening of the gap in the number of urban versus rural health care providers. While in 1996 the urban population had 18.5 more health care providers per 1,000 than did the rural population, by 2001, this gap had increased to 21.2 per 1,000.

Figure 21 also reveals an uneven redeployment of health care providers between zones with the most and least urban influence. Between 1996 and 2001, the number of providers per 1,000 *Strong MIZ* residents increased by 7.8, while the number of providers per 1,000 *No MIZ* residents increased by just 3.6. These data suggest that residents of the least urban-influenced zones not only have access to fewer health care providers compared to those in metro-adjacent regions, but that this is becoming increasingly the case over time.

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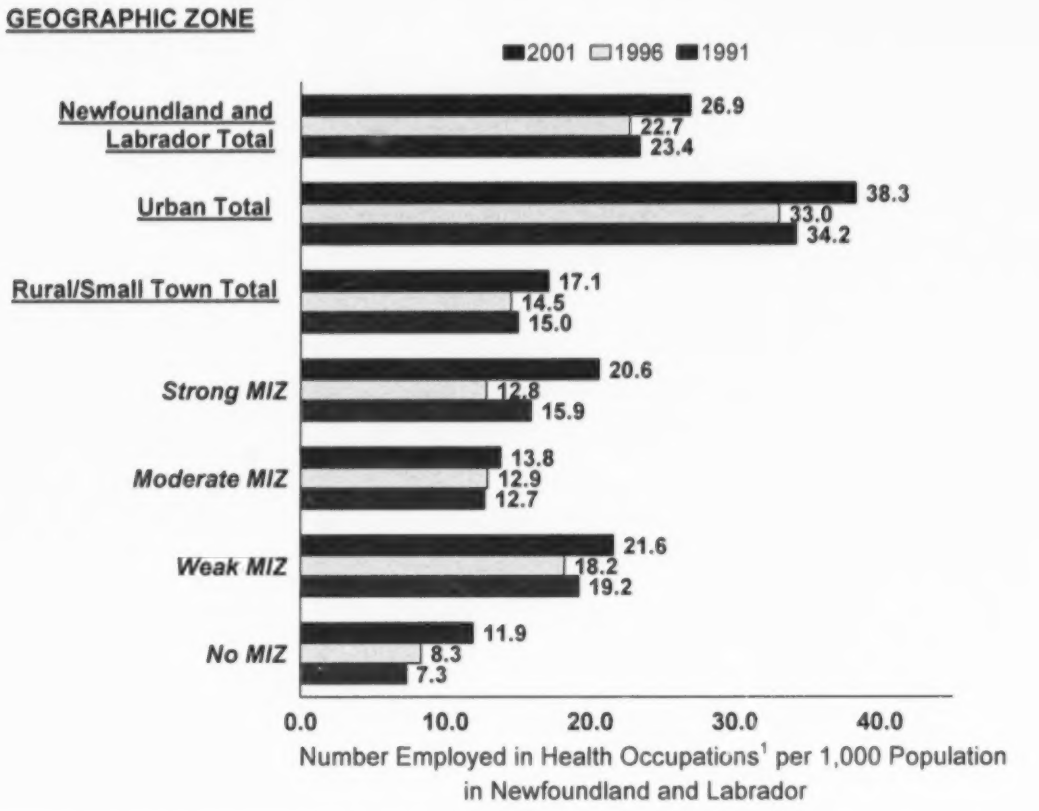
[13] It should be understood that health care providers are designated to the geographic area where they reside and not where they work. As such, the per capita health care providers in each zone may not accurately represent the number of providers serving the population of that zone.

Figure 21: *Moderate* and *No MIZ* Zones have the Fewest Per Capita Health Care Providers in the Province



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] The number of individuals working in Statistics Canada's occupational classification category of 'health occupations' per 1,000 people.

Table 8 presents a more detailed picture of the type of health care providers per capita for each geographic zone and for the 2001 and 1996 censuses only (see also Appendix Table 21).[14]

Compared to urban centres, rural and small town zones had fewer health care providers working in professional occupations such as physicians in 2001 (7.9 versus 2.2 per 1,000 population). As we move across the table, the rural disadvantage is even more apparent in the per capita number of RN Supervisors/RNs, with 8.4 fewer providers in rural than in urban zones (5.7 compared to 14.1 per capita). The difference in

[14] Detailed occupational information on health care providers is not available for 1991.

technical providers was slightly less, with rural zones having 4.9 fewer providers per capita compared to urban centres. Finally, rural zones had 2.3 fewer workers per capita in assisting occupations compared to urban centers in 2001 (2.7 compared to 5.0 per capita).

Table 8: The Number Employed in Every Health Occupational Category per Capita is Greater in Urban than in Rural Zones

Number Employed in Health Occupational Categories per 1,000 People; 2001 and 1996

	Professional Occupations		RN Supervisors & RNs		Technical & Related Occupations		Assisting Occupations in Support of Health	
Geographic Zone	2001	1996	2001	1996	2001	1996	2001	1996
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	4.9	3.8	9.6	9.3	8.7	6.7	3.7	2.9
Urban Total	7.9	6.2	14.1	14.0	11.3	9.1	5.0	3.6
Rural and Small Town Total	2.2	1.8	5.7	5.5	6.4	4.8	2.7	2.3
Strong MIZ	3.1	1.8	7.3	5.0	5.9	4.3	3.9	1.5
Moderate MIZ	1.9	1.4	4.5	4.3	5.1	4.6	2.2	2.5
Weak MIZ	2.7	2.6	7.4	7.4	8.6	5.7	2.9	2.5
No MIZ	0.8	0.4	3.5	4.0	4.5	2.6	2.7	1.3

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001 and 1996

Table 8 also reveals that with few exceptions, *Strong* and *Weak MIZ* residents were more advantaged than their *Moderate* and *No MIZ* counterparts in terms of access to each of the four types of health care providers in both 2001 and 1996. With the exception of the assisting occupations in 2001, *No MIZ* zones had the lowest number of per capita providers in each occupational category and in each of the census years. In terms of over-time change, most geographic zones generally exhibited a higher number of workers in each occupational category in 2001 than in 1996.

SUMMARY

The results from Figure 21 and Table 8 suggest a health care disadvantage for rural and small town citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador. Not only do rural and small town zones have fewer health care providers per capita, they frequently (but not always) also have a greater distance to travel to access services and specialists located in urban centres. This further limits the ability of residents of rural Newfoundland and Labrador to access needed health care services. These concerns are especially problematic for *No MIZ* residents who have the lowest number of health care providers per capita and are frequently (but again, not always) required to travel the furthest distance to access health care services. In 2001, *No MIZ* zones had 11.9 health care providers per 1000 people, only 5.8 of whom were health care professionals such as doctors. The lower number of professionals in rural zones as a whole is of concern (of 2.2 per capita compared to the urban figure of 7.9), as it may put a strain on those physicians who choose to practice in these geographic zones. This is especially the case when one considers that the majority (over 80%) of consultations with health care providers are with physicians (Statistics Canada, 1999b). There may also be an extra burden placed on other health care providers such as rural RNs who, no doubt, are relied upon to fulfill the health care needs of rural residents more than urban RNs. Finally, it should be noted that rural residents living near urban centres may well be accessing the health service there. Still, the findings suggest further investigation would be required to understand more fully the urban/rural disparity in health care providers.

Other aspects of health care must also be considered. For instance, the larger proportion of seniors in rural zones (and in *Moderate MIZ* zones in particular) places greater demand on home care services such as personal care, housework, and meal preparation, all of which play into the wellness of the elderly. Use of these services, however, is influenced by other factors. Individuals with low incomes and education levels, for example, are more likely to use home care services (Statistics Canada, 1999b). Both of these characteristics are found predominantly in *Moderate MIZ* zones. Hence, supporting home care programs may be a viable way to promote health and decrease health care costs by delaying or avoiding institutionalization. However, care must be taken not to unduly burden informal caregivers who may lack support because of the isolation of their rural communities.

The wellness of the Aboriginal population should also not be overlooked, and the comparatively high proportional representation of Aboriginal individuals in *Weak* and *No MIZ* zones of the province is an important consideration when assessing health care. It is becoming increasingly apparent that the health of Aboriginal Canadians is well below that of other citizens. Aboriginal people have higher rates of chronic conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer, and are more likely to be exposed to infectious diseases such as hepatitis, meningitis, and HIV/AIDS, to name a few (Kinnon, 2002). The distance required to access health care may limit the ability of Aboriginal people in many rural communities to access needed health care services. Access to adequate health care among the Aboriginal population residing in rural Newfoundland and Labrador is therefore worthy of further investigation.

F. Conclusions

The population losses within rural and small town Newfoundland and Labrador have been significant, accounting for virtually all of the provincial population contraction in the first half of the 1990s, and exceeding urban population contraction in the second half of the decade. Not only did the province's rural population decline in absolute numbers over the course of the decade, the share of the provincial population residing in a rural region or a small town also declined. Within rural zones, the *Weak MIZ* population contracted the least and the *No MIZ* population the most, though population losses were greater in each of the four rural and small town zones than in urban centres of the province in each inter-census period.

Though rural social conditions, such as the incidence of lone-parent families and housing affordability, were found to be more positive in rural than in urban Newfoundland and Labrador, the findings demonstrate that the economic, educational, and health care advantages typifying urban centres are not equally apparent in all rural zones. These advantages, furthermore, have escalated between 1996 and 2001, but not equally so across all rural zones. *Strong MIZ* zones have reaped similar benefits from a positive economic cycle as those residing in urban centres and *Weak MIZ* zones display some positive signs of economic progress. The improvements in economic, educational, and health care characteristics found in *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones, however, have not been sufficient to close the gap between these most disadvantaged zones and the more economically and educationally well-off *Strong MIZ* zones. In fact, economic conditions within *No MIZ* zones of the province were shown to deteriorate the most substantially between 1991 and 2001.

The conclusion that *Moderate* and *No MIZ* zones are, in many respects, the most disadvantaged of the geographic zones is an important one, but we have no indication of the source of this outcome. It is well documented that Aboriginal populations endure a high level of disadvantage no matter where they reside. In the case of *No MIZ* zones, lack of metropolitan influence is confounded with a higher proportion of Aboriginal people. Further research into this issue, therefore, would help clarify our understanding of rural conditions in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The MIZ classification system demonstrates that resources and support are needed in varying amounts throughout the four rural zones. Though the disadvantaged position of *No MIZ* zones suggests that lack of urban integration is a factor here, it is unclear why the more integrated *Moderate MIZ* zones often displayed the most disadvantaged conditions in the province. Nonetheless, perhaps the single most important implication of this analysis is that decision makers should recognize the range of conditions across the four MIZ zones of the province when drafting policy and implementing programs.

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APPENDIX:

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

This Appendix contains the numbers used to calculate the data presented in the charts and tables in the text. The numbers are reported within each geographic zone for each of the census years – 1991, 1996 and 2001. In some cases, census subdivisions (CSDs) (incorporated towns and municipalities) were classified to a different MIZ zone in one census, compared to another census. Thus, in the text, we calculated the proportion of individuals within each MIZ zone with a particular characteristic, such as the unemployment rate. In the text, we did not calculate the change in the number of unemployed within a MIZ zone over time. Readers should be cautioned that such a calculation, using the data provided here, would need to include two components: (a) the actual change in the number of unemployed individuals; AND (b) the change in the number of unemployed individuals in a zone that was due to a CSD being reclassified into this zone or being reclassified out of this zone. The calculation of population change removes the impact from reclassification by using "constant boundaries" for the 1991 to 1996 calculation of population change and for the 1996 to 2001 calculation of population change.

Appendix Table 1: Population[1] and Population Percentage Change in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 1996 to 2001 and 1991 to 1996

Geographic Zone	1996 Population (2001 Boundaries)	2001 Population (2001 Boundaries)	% Change (1996 – 2001)	1991 Population (1996 Boundaries)	1996 Population (1996 Boundaries)	% Change (1991 – 1996)
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	551,792	512,930	**-7.0**	568,474	551,792	**-2.9**
Urban Total	244,868	238,538	**-2.6**	244,889	244,868	**0.0**
Rural/Small Town Total	306,924	274,392	**-10.6**	323,585	306,924	**-5.1**
Strong MIZ	19,947	17,804	-10.7	20,770	19,947	-4.0
Moderate MIZ	140,596	125,213	-10.9	150,471	140,672	-6.5
Weak MIZ	118,960	107,024	-10.0	122,833	119,012	-3.1
No MIZ	27,421	24,351	-11.2	29,511	27,293	-7.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial total because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 2: Population Percent Distribution[1] in Canada
by Province / Territory and Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Percent

	2001	1996	1991
Canada	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	79.4	77.8	77.2
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	**20.6**	**22.2**	**22.8**
.. Strong MIZ	5.1	5.4	5.8
.. Moderate MIZ	7.6	8.2	8.6
.. Weak MIZ	6.6	7.2	7.1
.. No MIZ	1.1	1.2	1.1
.. Territories[1]	0.2	0.2	0.2
Newfoundland/Labrador	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	46.5	44.4	44.6
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	**53.5**	**55.6**	**55.4**
.. Strong MIZ	3.5	3.6	3.4
.. Moderate MIZ	24.4	25.5	24.3
.. Weak MIZ	20.9	21.6	22.2
.. No MIZ	4.7	5.0	5.5
Prince Edward Island	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	55.1	54.4	56.0
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	**44.9**	**45.6**	**44.0**
.. Strong MIZ	14.0	14.1	12.0
.. Moderate MIZ	21.7	22.1	22.0
.. Weak MIZ	8.6	8.9	9.4
.. No MIZ	0.5	0.5	0.6
Nova Scotia	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	63.3	61.3	60.4
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	**36.7**	**38.7**	**39.6**
.. Strong MIZ	2.4	3.3	3.2
.. Moderate MIZ	10.9	11.3	11.3
.. Weak MIZ	22.9	23.6	24.6
.. No MIZ	0.5	0.5	0.5
New Brunswick	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	52.3	51.5	52.0
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	**47.7**	**48.5**	**48.0**
.. Strong MIZ	6.9	7.0	7.9
.. Moderate MIZ	20.0	20.3	18.9
.. Weak MIZ	18.6	19.0	19.0
.. No MIZ	2.3	2.2	2.2

. . . Continued

Appendix Table 2 Continued

Percent

	2001	1996	1991
Quebec	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	78.5	77.6	77.3
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	21.5	22.4	22.7
.. Strong MIZ	6.1	6.0	6.1
.. Moderate MIZ	10.9	11.2	11.4
.. Weak MIZ	3.9	4.4	4.4
.. No MIZ	0.6	0.8	0.8
Ontario	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	87.0	85.2	84.2
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	13.0	14.8	15.8
.. Strong MIZ	6.1	7.0	7.5
.. Moderate MIZ	4.3	5.0	5.8
.. Weak MIZ	2.4	2.5	2.2
.. No MIZ	0.2	0.3	0.3
Manitoba	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	66.6	66.7	66.8
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	33.4	33.3	33.2
.. Strong MIZ	4.4	4.1	5.2
.. Moderate MIZ	10.4	10.3	9.2
.. Weak MIZ	14.9	15.4	15.6
.. No MIZ	3.6	3.5	3.2
Saskatchewan	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	57.7	56.7	56.4
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	42.3	43.3	43.6
.. Strong MIZ	2.7	2.6	2.5
.. Moderate MIZ	10.3	10.4	11.3
.. Weak MIZ	19.8	20.5	19.9
.. No MIZ	9.5	9.8	9.9
Alberta	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	75.4	74.3	74.7
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	24.6	25.7	25.3
.. Strong MIZ	4.5	4.3	4.5
.. Moderate MIZ	6.8	6.3	6.4
.. Weak MIZ	12.1	14.0	13.4
.. No MIZ	1.2	1.2	1.0
British Columbia	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	86.2	84.5	84.6
Rural and Small Town (RST) Total	13.8	15.5	15.4
.. Strong MIZ	1.8	2.1	2.5
.. Moderate MIZ	4.8	5.7	5.4
.. Weak MIZ	6.1	6.9	6.8
.. No MIZ	1.1	0.8	0.7

. . . Continued

Appendix Table 2 Continued

Percent

	2001	1996	1991
Yukon[1]	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	74.6	70.9	64.5
Territories	25.4	29.1	35.5
Northwest Territories[1]	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	44.3	43.6	41.8
Territories	55.7	56.4	58.2
Nunavut[1]	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban Total	0.0	0.0	0.0
Territories	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1991, 1996, and 2001

[1] The statistical area classification for the northern territories does not specify MIZ zones. "Territories" is the equivalent of "Rural and Small Town Total."

Appendix Table 3: Population Percentage Change[1] in Canada

By Province / Territory and Geographic Zone; 1996 to 2001 and 1991 to 1996

	1996 (2001 boundaries)	2001 (2001 boundaries)	1996-2001 % Change	1991 (1996 boundaries)	1996 (1996 boundaries)	1991-1996 % Change
Canada	**28,846,761**	**30,007094**	**4.0**	**27,318,076**	**28,871,473**	**5.7**
Urban Total	22,654,692	23,839,086	5.2	21,140,156	22,449,855	6.2
RST Total	**6,192,069**	**6,168,008**	**-0.4**	**6,177,920**	**6,421,618**	**3.9**
.. Strong MIZ	1,470,493	1,524,579	3.7	1,458,941	1,564,837	7.3
.. Moderate MIZ	2,307,387	2,285,538	-0.9	2,290,094	2,365,371	3.3
.. Weak MIZ	2,027,488	1,969,211	-2.9	2,078,315	2,119,337	2.0
.. No MIZ	330,616	333,847	1.0	329,353	347,361	5.5
.. Territories[2]	56,085	54,833	-2.2	n.a.	n.a	n.a.
Newfoundland/ Labrador	**551,792**	**512,930**	**-7.0**	**568,474**	**551,792**	**-2.9**
Urban Total	244,868	238,538	-2.6	244,889	244,868	0.0
RST Total	**306,924**	**274,392**	**-10.6**	**323,585**	**306,924**	**-5.1**
.. Strong MIZ	19,947	17,804	-10.7	20,770	19,947	-4.0
.. Moderate MIZ	140,596	125,213	-10.9	150,471	140,672	-6.5
.. Weak MIZ	118,960	107,024	-10.0	122,833	119,012	-3.1
.. No MIZ	27,421	24,351	-11.2	29,511	27,293	-7.5
Prince Edward Island	**134,557**	**135,294**	**0.5**	**129,765**	**134,557**	**3.7**
Urban Total	73,225	74,558	1.8	69,885	73,225	4.8
RST Total	**61,332**	**60,736**	**-1.0**	**59,880**	**61,332**	**2.4**
.. Strong MIZ	18,966	18,989	0.1	17,902	18,966	5.9
.. Moderate MIZ	29,713	29,371	-1.2	29,227	29,713	1.7
.. Weak MIZ	11,925	11,690	-2.0	11,940	11,925	-0.1
.. No MIZ	728	686	-5.8	811	728	-10.2
Nova Scotia	**909,282**	**908,007**	**-0.1**	**899,942**	**909,282**	**1.0**
Urban Total	568,062	574,696	1.2	546,052	557,614	2.1
RST Total	**341,220**	**333,311**	**-2.3**	**353,890**	**351,668**	**-0.6**
.. Strong MIZ	21,172	22,209	4.9	28,370	29,777	5.0
.. Moderate MIZ	100,647	98,571	-2.1	101,241	102,422	1.2
.. Weak MIZ	214,691	207,881	-3.2	219,618	214,691	-2.2
.. No MIZ	4,710	4,650	-1.3	4,661	4,778	2.5
New Brunswick	**738,133**	**729,498**	**-1.2**	**723,900**	**738,133**	**2.0**
Urban Total	380,153	381,169	0.3	370,439	380,149	2.6
RST Total	**357,980**	**348,329**	**-2.7**	**353,461**	**357,984**	**1.3**
.. Strong MIZ	51,349	50,527	-1.6	50,342	51,353	2.0
.. Moderate MIZ	150,795	145,567	-3.5	148,540	150,380	1.2
.. Weak MIZ	139,698	135,618	-2.9	140,434	140,113	-0.2
.. No MIZ	16,138	16,617	3.0	14,145	16,138	13.2

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Appendix Table 3 Continued

	1996 (2001 boundaries)	2001 (2001 boundaries)	1996-2001 % Change	1991 (1996 boundaries)	1996 (1996 boundaries)	1991-1996 % Change
Quebec	7,138,795	7,237,479	1.4	6,895,963	7,138,795	3.5
Urban Total	5,569,642	5,681,453	2.0	5,353,846	5,543,060	3.5
RST Total	1,569,153	1,556,026	-0.8	1,542,117	1,595,735	3.5
.. Strong MIZ	429,851	439,797	2.3	391,396	422,875	8.0
.. Moderate MIZ	800,113	789,980	-1.3	785,081	802,485	2.2
.. Weak MIZ	292,140	279,400	-4.4	313,032	315,625	0.8
.. No MIZ	47,049	46,849	-0.4	52,608	54,750	4.1
Ontario	10,753,573	11,410,046	6.1	10,084,885	10,753,573	6.6
Urban Total	9,291,331	9,925,949	6.8	8,559,726	9,157,435	7.0
RST Total	1,462,242	1,484,097	1.5	1,525,159	1,596,138	4.7
.. Strong MIZ	668,346	695,979	4.1	710,094	756,992	6.6
.. Moderate MIZ	489,985	489,378	-0.1	520,565	539,257	3.6
.. Weak MIZ	278,623	270,527	-2.9	266,562	269,132	1.0
.. No MIZ	25,288	28,213	11.6	27,938	30,757	10.1
Manitoba	1,113,898	1,119,583	0.5	1,091,942	1,113,898	2.0
Urban Total	742,444	746,184	0.5	736,318	742,560	0.8
RST Total	371,454	373,399	0.5	355,624	371,338	4.4
.. Strong MIZ	47,324	48,808	3.1	62,279	45,593	7.8
.. Moderate MIZ	114,608	116,659	1.8	110,237	115,127	4.4
.. Weak MIZ	169,348	167,188	-1.3	167,254	171,105	2.3
.. No MIZ	40,174	40,744	1.4	35,854	39,513	10.2
Saskatchewan	990,237	978,933	-1.1	988,928	990,237	0.1
Urban Total	561,672	565,222	0.6	551,776	561,672	1.8
RST Total	428,565	413,711	-3.5	437,152	428,565	-2.0
.. Strong MIZ	25,788	25,990	0.8	26,511	26,013	-1.9
.. Moderate MIZ	103,051	100,376	-2.6	105,203	102,823	-2.3
.. Weak MIZ	203,012	193,996	-4.4	207,229	202,570	-2.2
.. No MIZ	96,714	93,349	-3.5	98,209	97,159	-1.1
Alberta	2,696,826	2,974,807	10.3	2,545,553	2,696,826	5.9
Urban Total	2,004,641	2,244,336	12.0	1,901,066	2,002,352	5.3
RST Total	692,185	730,471	5.5	644,487	694,474	7.8
.. Strong MIZ	118,425	133,432	12.7	103,035	115,974	12.6
.. Moderate MIZ	190,335	201,612	5.9	158,227	169,300	7.0
.. Weak MIZ	352,527	358,995	1.8	356,885	377,669	5.8
.. No MIZ	30,898	36,432	17.9	26,340	31,531	19.7

. . . Continued

Appendix Table 3 Continued

	1996 (2001 boundaries)	2001 (2001 boundaries)	1996-2001 % Change	1991 (1996 boundaries)	1996 (1996 boundaries)	1991-1996 % Change
British Columbia	3,724,500	3,907,738	4.9	3,282,061	3,724,500	13.5
Urban Total	3,179,571	3,369,035	6.0	2,770,905	3,147,837	13.6
RST Total	544,929	538,703	-1.1	511,156	576,663	12.8
.. Strong MIZ	69,325	71,044	2.5	67,749	77,210	14.0
.. Moderate MIZ	187,544	188,811	0.7	181,119	212,996	17.6
.. Weak MIZ	246,564	236,892	-3.9	236,084	256,500	8.6
.. No MIZ	41,496	41,956	1.1	26,204	29,957	14.3
Yukon[2]	30,766	28,674	-6.8	27,797	30,766	10.7
Urban Total	21,808	21,405	-1.8	20,075	21,808	8.6
Territories	8,958	7,269	-18.9	7,722	8,958	16.0
Northwest Territories[2]	39,672	37,360	-5.8	36,432	39,672	9.2
Urban Total	17,275	16,541	-4.2	15,179	17,275	3.8
Territories	22,397	20,819	-7.0	21,253	22,397	5.8
Nunavut[2]	24,730	26,745	8.1	21,217	24,712	16.5
Urban Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Territories	24,730	26,745	8.1	21,217	24,712	16.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1991, 1996, and 2001

[1] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial / Canadian total because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any census subdivision.

[2] The statistical area classification for the northern territories does not specify MIZ zones. "Territories" is the equivalent of "Rural and Small Town Total."

Appendix Table 4: Population Age Distribution in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991

Percent

Geographic Zone	Children (0-14 years)			Youth (15-24 years)			Young Adults (25-44 years)			Adults (45-64 years)			Seniors (65 years +)		
	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	17.5	20.1	22.5	14.4	16.1	17.9	29.8	32.3	32.4	26.6	21.4	17.5	11.6	10.1	9.7
Urban Total	17.7	19.6	21.5	15.1	16.3	17.7	31.3	33.7	34.0	25.4	21.2	17.7	10.4	9.2	9.0
Rural/Small Town Total	17.4	20.4	23.3	13.7	16.0	18.1	28.6	31.2	31.1	27.6	21.6	17.3	12.7	10.8	10.2
Strong MIZ	16.9	20.1	24.2	14.5	17.0	17.4	28.1	30.9	31.8	28.8	21.9	16.7	11.7	10.1	9.9
Moderate MIZ	16.7	19.9	22.9	13.6	16.0	17.9	27.6	30.2	30.3	28.3	22.3	17.9	13.8	11.6	11.0
Weak MIZ	18.0	20.9	23.3	13.8	15.7	18.1	29.6	32.4	32.0	26.7	21.0	16.9	11.8	9.9	9.5
No MIZ	18.4	21.3	24.0	13.3	16.5	19.1	29.5	31.2	30.2	27.3	20.6	17.2	11.4	10.5	9.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

Appendix Table 5: Population Age in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996, and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	Children (0-14 years)			Youth (15-24 years)			Young Adults (25-44 years)			Adults (45-64 years)			Seniors (65+ years)		
	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[1]	89070	109820	127925	73105	88240	101740	151585	176670	184070	135270	117325	99580	59065	55120	55160
Urban Total	41780	47625	52755	35760	39505	43380	73875	81570	83325	60075	51355	43395	24570	22310	22090
Rural/Small Town Total	47285	62195	75235	37335	48730	58385	77695	95085	100465	75200	65955	56110	34485	32805	32855
Strong MIZ	2995	3995	5690	2570	3375	4090	4975	6145	7485	5105	4340	3925	2075	2005	2335
Moderate MIZ	20710	27750	32515	16895	22285	25360	34215	42135	42990	35180	31175	25385	17130	16245	15610
Weak MIZ	19075	24640	29505	14620	18595	22930	31320	38305	40500	28265	24855	21400	12490	11690	12025
No MIZ	4495	5795	7525	3250	4485	6005	7195	8495	9490	6650	5605	5400	2790	2860	2885

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 6: Aboriginal Identity Population[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001 and 1996

Number

Geographic Zone	2001	1996
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	18,775	14,205
Urban Total	3,440	2,075
Rural/Small Town Total	15,335	12,130
Strong MIZ	**375**	**225**
Moderate MIZ	**2,695**	**1,930**
Weak MIZ	**9,260**	**7,280**
No MIZ	**3,000**	**2,690**

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001 and 1996

[1] Refers to persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e. North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo) and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada and/or who were members of an Indian Band or First Nation (Statistics Canada, 1999a).

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 7: Home Language[1] Population in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	English			French			Non-official language[2]			Multiple Response		
	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total	503,680	542,270	559,095	895	875	1,230	2,890	3,270	2,770	610	740	840
Urban Total	234,080	240,090	240,075	575	430	685	1,060	1,445	1,265	335	410	350
Rural/Small Town Total	269,450	302,180	346,570	345	450	1,155	1,800	1,825	2,980	300	325	745
Strong MIZ	17,695	19,855	23,295	10	0	0	10	0	15	0	10	15
Moderate MIZ	123,225	138,895	140,545	185	155	230	580	445	115	170	100	185
Weak MIZ	104,385	116,295	123,915	150	280	295	1,140	1,320	1,385	120	185	270
No MIZ	24,145	27,135	58,915	0	15	630	70	55	1,465	10	30	275

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996, and 1991

[1] Home language is based on the language "most often spoken at home" for all three censuses. For the 2001 Census, the home language question asked for the language spoken "most often at home" AND the languages spoken "on a regular basis at home." The 2001 data includes only the language "most often spoken at home."

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 8: Population Participating in Labour Force[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador By Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	241,500	246,060	267,160
Urban Total	122,165	121,045	125,510
Rural / Small Town Total	119,335	125,015	156,710
Strong MIZ	7,815	8,300	10,215
Moderate MIZ	52,010	55,020	60,150
Weak MIZ	48,770	51,070	57,920
No MIZ	10,745	10,630	28,425

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] The Labour Force Participation Rate is based on the ratio of individuals who are currently employed or who are out of work (but looking for work) to the total number of individuals in the population who are over the age of 15.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 9: Population Unemployed[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	52,680	61,735	74,270
Urban Total	15,210	18,425	21,545
Rural/Small Town Total	37,475	43,310	56,110
Strong MIZ	2,100	2,575	4,070
Moderate MIZ	17,335	20,395	23,765
Weak MIZ	13,595	15,820	18,445
No MIZ	4,440	4,525	9,830

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] The Unemployment Rate is based on the ratio of individuals who are currently unemployed to those who are in the labour force.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 10: 2001 Labour Force Population by Industry Sector (NAIC)[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone

Number

Geographic Zone	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	Mining and Oil & Gas Extraction	Construction	Manufacturing	Production Services[2]	Consumer Services[3]	Government-Provided Services[4]
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[5]	15,515	4,935	15,035	23,985	47,045	60,055	65,700
Urban Total	1,610	3,610	6,110	6,510	30,065	32,370	38,255
Rural / Small Town Total	13,905	1,325	8,925	17,475	16,990	27,675	27,445
Strong MIZ	595	80	790	830	1,380	1,770	2,090
Moderate MIZ	6,630	515	4,620	8,105	7,360	11,525	10,740
Weak MIZ	4,780	545	2,830	6,775	6,965	12,310	12,235
No MIZ	1,900	190	685	1,770	1,265	2,070	2,385

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001

[1] Based on the 1997 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

[2] Production Services includes utilities, wholesale trade, transportation and warehousing, information and cultural industries, finance and insurance, real estate and rental and leasing, professional, scientific and technical services, management of companies and enterprises, administrative and support, waste management and remediation services.

[3] Consumer Services includes retail trade, arts, entertainment and recreation, and accommodation and food services and other services.

[4] Government-Provided Services includes educational services, health-care and social assistance and public administration.

[5] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 11: 1996 and 1991 Labour Force Population by Industry Sector (SIC)[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone

Number

Geographic Zone	Agric., Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting		Mining & Oil & Gas Extraction		Construction		Manufacturing		Production Services[2]		Consumer Services[3]		Government-Provided Services[4]	
	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991
Newfoundland and LabradorTotal[5]	14,810	17,075	4,645	4,500	17,215	18,155	22,085	34,945	39,910	43,135	61,930	64,730	68,660	76,000
Urban Total	2,010	2,180	2,865	3,085	6,515	7,240	6,995	8,500	24,425	25,890	32,640	32,900	39,885	42,290
Rural/Small Town Total	12,795	14,540	1,780	1,385	10,700	10,750	15,095	26,325	15,475	16,670	29,285	31,535	28,785	33,205
Strong MIZ	545	810	110	80	1,270	1,040	760	1,245	1,180	1,680	1,665	2,035	2,060	2,740
Moderate MIZ	5,995	6,255	775	525	5,535	5,825	6,725	11,185	7,125	7,030	12,275	13,645	11,445	12,715
Weak MIZ	4,535	5,145	580	535	3,275	3,235	6,140	10,510	5,995	6,795	13,155	13,600	13,260	15,360
No MIZ	1,730	2,330	310	245	615	650	1,465	3,385	1,185	1,165	2,180	2,255	2,035	2,390

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1996 and 1991

[1] Based on the 1980 Standard Industry Classification (SIC) system.

[2] Production Services includes communication and other utilities, wholesale trade, transportation and storage, finance and insurance, real estate operator and insurance agent, and business services.

[3] Consumer Services includes retail trade, accommodation, food and beverage, and other services.

[4] Government-Provided Services includes educational services, health and social assistance, and government services.

[5] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 12: Self-Employed[1] Population in Newfoundland and Labrador
By Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	17,115	18,485	17,690
Urban Total	7,685	7,965	6,230
Rural/Small Town Total	9,430	10,510	11,235
Strong MIZ	515	545	655
Moderate MIZ	4,235	4,775	4,740
Weak MIZ	3,595	4,015	4,285
No MIZ	1,080	1,175	1,555

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] Self-employment includes operating a business or professional practice, doing freelance or contract work, and farming, fishing and trapping. It also includes operating a direct distributorship selling and distributing goods such as cosmetics (Statistics Canada, 1999a).

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 13: Low Income Population[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador
By Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	95,275	116,440	94,605
Urban Total	40,365	45,375	36,590
Rural/Small Town Total	52,770	71,070	60,020
Strong MIZ	2,935	4,200	3,645
Moderate MIZ	25,430	35,340	26,960
Weak MIZ	21,555	25,605	22,040
No MIZ	2,850	5,930	7,375

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] The incidence of low-income is calculated as the number of individuals living in a household with an income below the low-income cut-off (LICO) divided by the total number of individuals. The LICO is a level of income where households are judged to be in straitened circumstances, on the basis of the income required to provide food, clothing and shelter.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 14: 2001 Population Educational Attainment[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador By Geographic Zone

Number

Geographic Zone	Less Than High School	High School Diploma	Some Post-Secondary	Post-Secondary Cert./Dip.	University Degree
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	150,295	34,450	39,735	115,255	39,925
Urban Total	48,800	16,405	23,485	60,065	28,155
Rural/Small Town Total	101,495	18,045	16,260	55,195	11,765
Strong MIZ	5,915	1,010	1,200	4,200	895
Moderate MIZ	49,270	8,740	7,290	23,485	4,535
Weak MIZ	36,735	6,285	6,505	23,255	5,435
No MIZ	9,580	2,005	1,265	4,250	890

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001

[1] 2001 educational attainment data are provided for the population 20 years of age and over.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 15: 1996 and 1991 Population Educational Attainment[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador
by Geographic Zone

Number

Geographic Zone	Less Than High School		High School Diploma		Some Post-Secondary		Post-Secondary Cert./Dip.		University Degree	
	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	198,530	214,580	43,040	50,845	40,440	39,875	119,815	101,835	35,515	28,890
Urban Total	67,160	72,030	20,015	22,595	22,590	22,585	60,865	52,870	24,120	19,500
Rural/Small Town Total	131,365	151,730	23,025	31,085	17,850	19,145	58,950	54,370	11,400	10,500
Strong MIZ	7,970	9,285	1,575	2,190	1,215	1,335	4,320	4,010	770	730
Moderate MIZ	62,385	64,200	11,060	12,515	8,075	7,260	25,855	20,630	4,465	3,605
Weak MIZ	48,455	53,075	8,385	10,880	7,035	7,075	24,225	20,310	5,340	4,480
No MIZ	12,555	25,170	2,005	5,500	1,525	3,475	4,540	9,420	825	1,685

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1996 and 1991

[1] 1996 and 1991 educational attainment data are provided for individuals 15 years of age and over.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 16: Number of Education Providers[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador; by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	10,270	12,070	14,340
Urban Total	5,390	6,160	7,130
Rural/Small Town Total	4,880	5,915	6,960
Strong MIZ	295	465	425
Moderate MIZ	1,820	2,400	2,890
Weak MIZ	2,330	2,575	3,085
No MIZ	430	465	560

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] The number of individuals working in Statistics Canada's occupational classification category of teachers or professors.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 17: Number of Lone-Parent Families in Newfoundland and Labrador; by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	2001[1]	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	23,050	20,485	17,875
Urban Total	11,720	10,385	8,940
Rural/Small Town Total	11,330	10,095	8,875
Strong MIZ	825	745	660
Moderate MIZ	5,180	4,395	3,820
Weak MIZ	4,545	4,275	3,625
No MIZ	780	680	770

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] A minor change in the measurement of lone-parent families in 2001 marginally inflates the percentage in this year.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 18: Number of Houses Constructed Between 1996 and 2001, 1991 and 1995, and 1986 and 1990 in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone

Number of Houses

Geographic Zone	1996 – 2001	1991 – 1995	1986 – 1990
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[1]	11,220	15,620	17,800
Urban Total	6,535	7,815	8,690
Rural/Small Town Total	4,690	7,805	9,110
Strong MIZ	310	570	645
Moderate MIZ	1,980	3,310	3,935
Weak MIZ	1,950	3,160	3,755
No MIZ	455	765	775

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 19: Number of Owner Households Spending Greater than 30% of Income on Shelter[1] in Newfoundland and Labrador
by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number of Households

Geographic Zone	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[2]	18,655	17,050	8,930
Urban Total	8,400	7,785	4,570
Rural/Small Town Total	9,830	9,265	4,530
Strong MIZ	610	540	315
Moderate MIZ	5,140	4,805	2,105
Weak MIZ	3,505	3,045	1,615
No MIZ	575	875	495

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] Refers to total household income spent on shelter costs for owners only (not renters) and refers to payments for electricity, fuel, water and municipal services.

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 20: Number Employed in Health Occupations in Newfoundland and Labrador by Geographic Zone; 2001, 1996 and 1991

Number

Geographic Zone	2001	1996	1991
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[1]	13,685	12,425	13,330
Urban Total	9,035	8,005	8,365
Rural/Small Town Total	4,645	4,420	4,840
Strong MIZ	**365**	**255**	**375**
Moderate MIZ	**1,710**	**1,795**	**1,810**
Weak MIZ	**2,285**	**2,145**	**2,425**
No MIZ	**290**	**225**	**230**

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001, 1996 and 1991

[1] The number of individuals working in Statistics Canada's occupational classification category of 'health occupations.'

[2] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.

Appendix Table 21: Number Employed in Health Occupational Categories in Newfoundland and Labrador; by Geographic Zone; 2001 and 1996

Number

Geographic Zone	Professional Occupations		RN Supervisors & RNs		Technical & Related Occupations		Assisting Occupations in Support of Health	
	2001	1996	2001	1996	2001	1996	2001	1996
Newfoundland and Labrador Total[1]	2,475	2,075	4,885	5,090	4,425	3,675	1,905	1,585
Urban Total	1,870	1,515	3,325	3,405	2,675	2,215	1,170	865
Rural/Small Town Total	600	555	1,555	1,685	1,745	1,465	735	710
Strong MIZ	55	35	130	100	105	85	70	30
Moderate MIZ	240	195	560	605	630	645	275	345
Weak MIZ	285	310	780	870	905	670	310	300
No MIZ	20	10	85	110	110	70	65	35

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001 and 1996

[1] Population figures for urban and rural do not add up to the provincial totals because data are suppressed if there are fewer than 40 residents in any Canadian census subdivision.